

31/3/11  
BRECONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

# ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the Year 1954

by

W. F. W. BETENSON, M.B., D.P.H.

County Medical Officer of Health

BRECON :

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## TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE BRECONSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL.

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I have the honour to submit to you my Twenty-third Annual Report with Vital Statistics and Sanitary Conditions of Breconshire for the year 1954.

The death rate was 12.92, which is about the same as last year and compares favourably with that for England and Wales which was 14.6 and it is satisfactory to note that the Infant Mortality rate decreased from 29.54 last year to 22.00 this year. On the other hand I regret to report 3 deaths due to childbirth or abortion compared to none last year—this gives a high figure for the Maternal Mortality Rate for the County equal to 3.58 per 1,000 births; one of these cases was, however, actually a death which occurred late in 1953.

**Maternity Service.**—Owing to complaints in one area of the unfair methods by which patients were obtaining admission to the maternity home for their confinements it was most gratifying to find this particular Hospital Management Committee determined to co-operate with us in every way to ensure that accommodation would only be reserved for cases most deserving of it on medical or social grounds. I should like to express my appreciation of the work done by Miss E. M. Lewis, the Organising Secretary of the Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Moral Welfare Association on behalf of the unmarried mothers.

**Welfare Foods Distribution.**—This scheme works well and is mentioned in detail in the Report. One member of the department attends at fixed centres once a week—this is quite satisfactory except that when he is away at any time his place has to be taken by one of the department's clerical staff, and this interferes with the office routine to a certain extent,

**Nursing Service.**—Difficulty has again been experienced in obtaining suitable applicants for nursing appointments and the staff has been short of approximately 5 nurses. Some vacancies have been advertised six or seven times without success. This shortage has made it difficult to give the necessary relief and off duty time and meant that this can only be obtained by the nurse in one area being relieved by one in an adjoining area—an unsatisfactory state of affairs. Unfortunately all indications point to the situation becoming worse and moving towards a crisis. It will be a sad day for the community if the "district nurse" as such is driven out by the force of events—she enjoyed her midwifery, was a mistress in her art and was left alone to do it without interference; moreover her general nursing was interesting, but the inroads on her midwifery by increasing hospitalization and the work of the general practitioner obstetricians has dealt a

death blow at her domain as a midwife and modern nursing in many ways has developed to such simple technique as to make it merely dull.

**Immunisation.**—The percentage of children protected against diphtheria remains fairly constant at 59%. One would like to see a higher figure and one is tempted to fear that the success of the scheme may be suffering as a result of offering the parents the alternative of having the child immunised by their general practitioner. It is not easy to maintain interest in a scheme at full efficiency when one is not entirely responsible for it. It is hoped that now protection against whooping cough is combined with the diphtheria injection that the final figures of those “done” will show an increase.

**Dental Care of Expectant Mothers and Young Children.**—The School Dental Officers continue as before to give one eleventh of their time and as will be seen from the figures in the report are doing excellent work.

**Domestic Help Scheme.**—It is evident that the cost of this service has not yet reached its peak and I cannot pretend to be satisfied with its administration. While one can fully understand the reluctance to embark upon the extra expenditure of appointing a whole time supervisor it is hopeless to expect this work to be carried out by the Superintendent Nursing Officer who already has a full time post. The cost at present is equivalent to the County having 30 full time domestic help employees each at £400 a year working under no supervisor at all as to whether or not they are meeting the requirements of the patients or the Authority, and it makes the scheme difficult to administer and give satisfaction.

**Ambulance Services.**—It will be noted from the figures under the appropriate section in the report that the work increased during the year in the number of patients carried, the number of journeys, and the miles covered.

I have the honour to be,

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. F. W. BETENSON,

County Medical Officer.

County Health Offices,  
Watton, Brecon.

10th August, 1955.

Telephone: Office—Brecon 214.

Home—Brecon 167

# Constitution of the Committees concerned with matters of Public Health, during the year 1953/54.

## HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman: Ald. J. G. Eadie, Fronheulog, Builth Wells.

### MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE COUNCIL:

Coun. J. V. Like, Skynlais House, Church Street, Hay-on-Wye.  
Coun. John Thomas, Saladin House, Llangynidr, Nr. Crickhowell.

#### Brecon District:

Coun. E. D. Morgan, Fennyfach, Brecon.  
Coun. W. J. Bevan, 17, Trenewydd, Llanfaes, Brecon.

#### Brynmawr District:

Coun. James Pritchard, 4, Clydach Street, Brynmawr.  
Coun. T. R. Jones, The Daren, Darenfelen Road, Brynmawr.

#### Builth District:

Ald. J. G. Eadie (Chairman), Fronheulog, Builth Wells.  
Coun. T. H. O. Thomas, Talwrnmaenog, Llanwrthwl.

#### Crickhowell District:

Ald. O. H. Williams, Tremle, Bwlch.  
Coun. D. P. Thomas, Neuadd, Cwmdru, Crickhowell.

#### Devynock District:

Coun. Penry Davies, Penrhiew, Trecastle.  
Coun. David Lewis, M.B.E., Cwmpadest, Cray.

#### Hay and Talgarth District:

Coun. T. I. Watkins, Graigend, Talgarth.  
Coun. T. Havard, Little Lodge, Three Cocks, Brecon.

#### Vaynor District:

Coun. Mrs. M. E. Morgan, 33, The Copse, Trefechan, Cefn Coed.  
Coun. L. I. Moses, Plasydinas, Pontneathvaughan, Via Neath.

#### Ystradgynlais District:

Ald. Idris Davies, O.B.E., Bwlfa, Abercrave, Swansea.  
Coun. J. E. Williams, Tanybedw, Cwmgiedd, Ystradgynlais.

Coun. W. J. Millichap, Llwynnoyadd Farm, Llandefalle, Nr. Brecon  
Coun. Thomas Rees, Thornleigh, Palleg Road, Lower Cwmtwrch.  
Coun. L. F. Saunders, 2, Factory Road, Brynmawr.  
Coun. E. W. McIntosh, Dinas View, Clydach, Nr. Abergavenny.  
Coun. J. T. Walsh, Avondale, Ystradgynlais.

### MEMBERS CO-OPTED BY THE COMMITTEE:

Mrs. Aline Sparrow, Glawcoed Cottages, Talybont-on-Usk.  
Mrs. E. Smetham, Carn Brae, Cefn Coed  
Mrs. J. G. Eadie, Fronheulog, Builth Wells.  
Mrs. M. M. Prosser, Lletty Dafydd, Ystradgynlais.  
Dr. R. J. Jayne, The Cottage, Talgarth.  
Mrs. J. Walford Price, 27, King Edward Road, Brynmawr.  
Mrs. J. G. Rees, Glan-Nant, Crickhowell.  
Dr. T. L. Davies, Aelybryn, Llanhamlach.



## County Ambulance Service Transport Sub-Committee.

Chairman: Coun. J. E. Williams, Tanybedw, Cwmgiedd, Ystradgynlais.

### BRECON DISTRICT.

Coun. W. J. Bevan, 17, Trenewydd, Llanfacs, Brecon.  
Coun. E. D. Morgan, Fennyfach, Brecon.

### BRYNMAWR DISTRICT.

Coun. T. R. Jones, The Daren, Darenfelen Road, Brynmawr  
Coun. L. F. Saunders, 2, Factory Road, Brynmawr.

### BUILTH DISTRICT,

Ald. J. G. Eadie, Fronheulog, Builth Wells.  
Coun. T. H. O. Thomas, Talwrnmaenog, Llanwrthwl.

### CRICKHOWELL DISTRICT.

Coun. John Thomas, Saladin House, Llangynidr, Nr. Crickhowell.  
Coun. D. P. Thomas, Neuadd, Cwmdy, Crickhowell.

### DEFYNNOG DISTRICT.

Coun. David Lewis, M.B.E., Cwmpadest, Cray.  
Coun. Penry Davies, Penrhiew, Trecastle.

### HAY AND TALGARTH DISTRICT.

Coun. T. I. Watkins, Craigend, Talgarth.  
Coun. J. V. Like, Skynlais House, Church Street, Hay-on-Wye.

### VAYNOR DISTRICT.

Coun. Lewis I. Moses, Plasydinas, Pontneathvaughan, via Neath.  
Coun. Mrs. M. E. Morgan, 3, The Copse, Trefechan, Merthyr Tydfil.

### YSTRADGYNLAIS DISTRICT.

Coun. T. Rees, Thornleigh, Palleg Road, Lower Cwmtwrch.  
Coun. J. E. Williams (Chairman), Tanybedw, Cwmgiedd,  
Ystradgynlais.

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## MEMBERS REPRESENTING OUTSIDE BODIES.

### BRECON AND RADNOR HOSPITAL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

E. A. Watts, Esq., Bryn-y-gaer, Alexandra Road, Brecon.

### ORDER OF ST. JOHN OF JERUSALEM.

Comdr. A. T. L. Wilson, Garth House, Garth, Llangammarch Wells.

### BRITISH RED CROSS SOCIETY.

Lt.-Col. D. R. H. Gwynne, Trefecca Fawr, Talgarth.

### TRANSPORT OFFICER.

C. H. Smith, Esq., W.H.S.A. Department, Priory House, 4, Cathedral Road, Cardiff.

### BUILTH STATION REPRESENTATIVE.

Mr. G. Newell, Corps Superintendent, St. John Ambulance Brigade,  
Bryndolau, Park Wells Road, Builth Wells.

### CRICKHOWELL STATION REPRESENTATIVE.

Mr. R. G. Jones, Castle Garage, Crickhowell.

### BRECON STATION REPRESENTATIVE.

Mrs. de Lonra, 10, Free Street, Brecon.

**HAY STATION REPRESENTATIVE.**

Mr. F. H. Bassett, 30, Gipsy Castle Estate, Hay-on-Wye.

**YSTRADGYNLAIS AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION.**

Mr. William Lewis, Macs-y-llan, Station Road, Ystradgynlais.

Mr. J. T. Rees, 6, Glanrhyd Road, Ystradgynlais.

**MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES SUB-COMMITTEE.**

Chairman: Coun. J. E. Williams, Tanybedw, Cwmgiedd, Ystradgynlais.

Coun. J. V. Like, Skynlais House, Church Street, Hay-on-Wye.

Coun. John Thomas, Saladin House, Llangynidr.

**BRECON DISTRICT.**

Coun. W. J. Bevan, 17, Trenewydd, Llanfaes, Brecon.

Coun. E. D. Morgan, Fennyfach, Brecon.

**BRYNMAWR DISTRICT.**

Coun. John Jones, Voel, 12, King Street. (Deceased 1954).

Coun. E. W. McIntosh, Dinas View, Clydach.

**BUILTH DISTRICT.**

Ald. J. G. Eadie, Fronheulog, Builth Wells.

Coun. T. H. O. Thomas, Talwrnmaenog, Llanwrthwl, Nr. Llandrindod Wells.

**CRICKHOWELL DISTRICT.**

Ald. O. H. Williams, Tremle, Bwlch.

Coun. D. P. Thomas, Neuadd, Cwmdy, Crickhowell.

**DEFYNNOG DISTRICT.**

Coun. David Lewis, M.B.E., Cwmpadest, Cray.

Coun. Penry Davies, Penrhiew, Trecastle.

**HAY AND TALGARTH DISTRICT.**

Coun. T. Havard, Little Lodge, Three Cocks, Brecs.

Coun. T. I. Watkins, Craigend, Talgarth.

**VAYNOR DISTRICT.**

Coun. L. I. Moses, Plasydinas, Pontneathvaughan, Via Neath.

Coun. Mrs. M. E. Morgan, 3, The Copse, Trefechan, Cefn Coed.

**YSTRADGYNLAIS DISTRICT.**

Coun. T. Rees, Thornleigh, Palleg Road, Lower Cwmtwrch.

Coun. J. E. Williams, Tanybedw, Cwmgiedd, Ystradgynlais.

Ald. Idris Davies, O.B.E., Bwllfa, Abercrave, Swansea.

Coun. W. J. Millichap, Llwynnoyadd Farm, Llandefalle, Nr. Brecon.

Dr. T. L. Davies, Aelybryn, Llanhamlach.

**LADY MEMBERS APPOINTED BY THE COMMITTEE.**

Coun. Mrs. M. M. Prosser, Llety Dafydd, Ystradgynlais.

Mrs. J. G. Rees, Glan Nant, Crickhowell.

## STAFF OF THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

### MEDICAL.

County M.O.H. and Principal School M.O.	W. F. W. Betenson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Deputy C.M.O.H. and School M.O.	R. G. Evans, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., C.P.H., D.P.H.,
Assistant C.M.O.H. and School M.O.	C. M. Evans, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

### DENTAL.

Principal Dental Officer:	Mr. J. H. Sutcliffe, L.D.S.
Assistant Dental Officer:	Mr. P. G. George, L.D.S.
Dental Attendant.	Miss M. Anthony.
" "	Miss W. A. P. Mills.

### NURSING.

#### Superintendent Nursing Officer.

Area Covered.

Miss E. Bestford Dunn, Brecon. (Tele.—Brecon 214).	Whole County.
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#### Health Visitors (and School Nurses).

Miss H. K. King, Brynmawr.	Brynmawr Urban.
Miss S. M. Thickens, Cefn Coed.	Hirwaun (Part), Penderyn (Cefncoedycymmer), Nantddu, Hepste Hamlet, Ystradfellte, Pontneathvaughan, Torpantau, Cross Bychan, Rhigos (Part), Vaynor (Cefncoedycwmmer), Vaynor (Gelly and Duffryn), Dolygear, Cwmtaff, Vaynor (Nantddu), Llanfeigan (Pontsarn), Llandetty (Pontsticill).
Mrs. C. M. Bowen, Llangattock.	Ffawyddog, Crickhowell, Llangattock, Cathedine, Bwlch, Cwmdu, Llanbedr, Llangenny, Llangrwyney, Grwynefechan, Tre-tower, Partrishow, Forest Coalpit (Part), Llangasty - Talyllyn, Llangorse, Llanfihangel-Talyllyn, Llanhamlach, Llanwern, Llechfaen, Sceithrog, Llansantffraed, Pen-north.
Mrs Myra Davies, Pontardawe.	Abercrave, Penycae, Caehopkin (Part), Colbren, Penwyllit, Onllwyn, Seven Sisters (Part).
Mrs. M. A. Francis, Brecon.	Brecon Urban.
<b>Health Visitor.</b>	
Mrs. A. R. Evans, Ystradgynlais.	Ystradgynlais, Ynisedwyn, Gurnos, Cyn-lais, Cwmgiedd, Penrhos, Cwmtwrch, Glanrhyd, Glyntawe, Caehopkin (Part).



## District Nurses/Midwives/Health Visitors.

	Area Covered
Miss M. L. Evans, 16 Penpentre, Talybont-on-Usk. (Tele.—Talybont-on-Usk 265).	Talybont, Llanfrynach, Aber, Pencelly, Cross Oak, Llanfeigan, Cantref (Part), Llandetty, Llangynidr, Duffryn Crawnnon.
Miss D. I. Peregrine, Malwa, The Avenue, Brecon. (Tele.—Brecon 298).	Aberyscir, Battle, Castlemadoc, Cradoc, Merthyr Cynog, Felinfach, Llanddew, Llandefaelog, Pontfaen, Fennyfach, Lower Chapel, Upper Chapel, Talachddu, Garth- brenghy.
Mrs. D. O. Hathaway, Tyclyd, Alexandra Road, Brecon. (Tele.—Brecon 361).	General Nursing and Midwifery: St. David's Without, Glyn, Modrydd, Dinas, Libanus, Cantref, Penpont (Part), Maes- car. Health Visiting: St. David's Without, Glyn, Modrydd, Dinas, Libanus, Sennybridge, Defynock, Cray, Llanfihangel Nantbran, Llandilofane, Ciliene, Treccastle, Ysclydach, Aberpedwr, Trallong, Aberbran, Penpont, Pentrefelin, Traiangelas, Llanspyddid.
Miss A. M. R. Isitt, High Trees, Abergavenny Rd., Gilwern. (Tele.—Gilwern 33).	(Llanelly) Clydach, (Llanelly) Gilwern.
Nurse F. M. Bound, Fir Tree Cottage, Talgarth. (Tele.—Talgarth 66).	Talgarth, Bronllys, Pengenffordd, Ponty- bat, Llanfillo, Llandefalle, Colebrook, Trefecca, Trefeinon, Llanelieu.
Nurse G. Jones, Glanavon, Castle St., Builth Wells. (Tele.—Builth Wells 3121).	Builth Wells, Llandewi'r Cwm, Llan- ganten, Llangynog, Llanynis, Maesmynis, Rhosferig, Alltmawr, Cilmery.
Nurse S. Morgan, 10, Lion Street, Hay-on-Wye. (Tele.—Hay-on-Wye 39).	Hay Urban and Part of Hay Rural.
Nurse I. M. Williams, 42, Lansbury Road, Brynmaur. (Tele.—Brynmaur 367).	Darenfelen, Llanelly Hill, Brynmaur (West).
Nurse D. G. Berry, 2, George Street, Brecon. (Tele.—Brecon 431).	Brecon Urban.
Vacancy.	Brecon Urban.
Nurse I. E. Chilton, Colindale Bungalow, Brynmaur (Tele.—Brynmaur 330).	Brynmaur (East).
Nurse M. Jones, 10, Tudor Avenue, Hirwaun (Tele.—Hirwaun 291).	Hirwaun (Part), Penderyn, Ystradfellte, Pontneathvaughan,

## District Nurses/Midwives/Health Visitors—Continued.

	Area Covered.
Nurse A. E. Williams, Tyctyd, Sennybridge (Tele.—Sennybridge 47).	Sennybridge, Defynock, Pentrefelin, Cray, Llanfihangel - Nant - Bran, Llandilofane, Traianglas, Ciliene, Trecastle, Yscltydach, Aberpedwar, Trallong, Aberbran, Senny.
Nurse A. M. Daniel, Caemaen, Penycae. (Tele.—Abercrave 254).	Colbren, Penwyllt, Onllwyn, Seven Sisters (Part), Abercrave, Penycae, Caehopkin.
Nurse E. J. Davies, The Warren, Three Cocks, (Tele.—Glasbury 60).	Llanigon, Glasbury, Velindre, Three Cocks, Pipton, Tregoyd, Pontithel, Hay Rural (Part).
Nurse F. M. Davies, Dolhari, Beulah, Garth, Builth Wells. (Tele.—Llangammarch 212).	Garth, Llwynmadoc, Llanafanfawr, Llan- lleonfel-Abergwessin, Part of Trefis.
Nurse A. Messer, Clovelly House, Erwood, Builth Wells. (Tele.—Erwood 214).	Llyswn, Crickadarn, Gwenddwr, Erwood. Llaneglwys.
Nurse E. R. Page, 3, Trawscoed Villas, Llanwrtyd Wells. (Tele.—Llanwrtyd 223).	Llanwrtyd, Llandulas, Llandewi-Aber- gwessin, Penbualt, Trefis, Llangammarch, Gwarafog.
Nurse Elonwy Powell, School House, Treor'glien, Upper Cwmtwrch. (Tele.—Glantawe 2235).	Ystradgynlais and Cwmtwrch.
Nurse M. A. Davies, Brynteg, Bwlch, Brecs. (Tele.—Bwlch 240).	Cathedine, Bwlch, Part of Cwmdu, Llan- gorse, Llanfihangel - Tallyllyn, Llangasty- Tallyllyn, Llanwern, Llechfaen, Scethrog, Llanhamlach, Llansantfraed, Pennortn.
Nurse M. M. Jones, Westlyn, Garth Road, Builth Wells. (Tele.—Builth Wells 3121).	Relief Nurse, Northern Area: Builth, Llan- wrtyd, Erwood, Llwynmadoc, etc.
Vacancy.	Relief Nurse, South Western Area: Ystrad- gynlais, etc.
Vacancy.	Relief Nurse, South Eastern: Brecon, Crickhowell, Hay, Talgarth, Brynmawr, etc.
Vacancy.	Relief Nurse, Southern: Cefn and Vaynor Defynock, etc.
Nurse E. H. Wargent, Greenhill Corner, Crickhowell. (Tele.—Crickhowell 60).	Llangattock, Llanbedr, Llangenny, Cwmdu (Part), Tretower, Grwynefechan, Par- trishow, Llangrwyney, Forest Coalpit (Part), Crickhowell.
Nurse M. Sier, 2, Crabtree Walk, Trefechan, Cefn Coed, Nr. Merthyr Tydfil. (Tele.—Merthyr Tydfil 852).	Cefn Coed, Gelly, Pontsticill, Dolygaer, Pontsarn.

**District Midwife,****Area Covered.**

Nurse M. C. Joseph,  
1, William Street,  
Glanrhyd,  
Ystradgynlais.  
(Tele.—Glantawe 3244).

Cwmtwrch, Ystradgynlais.

**District Nurses.**

Nurse S. E. H. Paige,  
30, Heolmeurig,  
Lower Cwmtwrch.  
(Tele.—Glantawe 3294).

Ystradgynlais.

Nurse C. Hughes,  
63, Garn Road,  
Nantyglo, Mon.  
(Tele.—Brynmawr 296).

Brynmawr Urban.

**ORTHOPAEDIC.**

Orthopaedic Nurse.

Miss I. B. Leefe,  
Honddu House, Castle Street, Brecon.

**MENTAL WELFARE.**

Duly Authorised  
Officers.

Mr. H. G. Edwards,  
13, The Watton, Brecon  
(Tele. Brecon 240).

Mr. D. J. Davies,  
Welfare Office, Lower Bailey St., Brynmawr  
(Tele. Brynmawr 254).

Mr. W. B. Hargest,  
c/o Mason's Arms, Talgarth  
(Tele. Talgarth 50).

Mr. D. W. Chambers,  
Abertaff, Cefn Coed, Nr. Merthyr Tydfil  
(Tele. Merthyr Tydfil 386).

Mr. Wm. T. Davies,  
Peglers Buildings, Ystradgynlais  
(Tele. Glantawe 3104).

**CLERICAL.**

Chief Clerk.

Mr. R. I. Jones.

Senior Clerk.

Mr. R. E. Page,

Mr. I. Lewis.

Mr. T. Jones.

Miss A. Vaughan (Resigned 14/7/54).

Miss F. J. Thorogood (Commenced 6/9/54).

Mr. R. W. Jones.

Mrs. S. J. Wall.

Miss S. José.

Miss J. Hadley.

Mr. W. G. Phillips.

Miss E. Lewis

Welfare Foods Clerk.

Mr. D. W. Foster (Commenced 16/8/54).

**MEDICAL OFFICERS OF HEALTH IN THE COUNTY.**

Brecon Urban; and Rural:	}	Dr. T. C. R. George, Guild Hall, Brecon (Tel.: Brecon 26).
Builth Urban; and Rural:		
Hay Urban; and Rural:		
Llanwrtyd Wells Urban:		
Brynmawr Urban:	}	Dr. J. Tate, Crossley House, Great Oak Road, Crickhowell. (Tel. Crickhowell 123).
Crickhowell Rural:		
Vaynor and Penderyn Rural:		
Ystradgynlais Rural:		

**SANITARY INSPECTORS IN THE COUNTY.**

Brecon Urban:	Mr. S. Jinks, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Municipal Offices, Steeple Lane, Brecon.
Brynmawr Urban:	Mr. Thomas Eli Hall, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Council Offices, Bryn- mawr.
Builth Wells Urban:	Mr. E. V. Collins, M.R.S.I., Clovelly, Garth Road, Builth Wells.
Hay Urban:	Mr. Garfield G. Evans, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Council Offices, Belle Vue, Talgarth.
Llanwrtyd Wells Urban:	Mr. A. E. Sweeting, C.S.I.B., War Memorial Institute, Llanwrtyd.
Brecon Rural:	Mr. W. J. Rees, M.R.S.I., M.R.I.P.H.H., M.S.I.A., Oxford House, The Watton, Brecon.
Builth Rural:	Mr. G. H. Llewellyn, M.R.S.I., Builth Wells.
Crickhowell Rural:	Mr. R. A. Jackson, M.S.I.A., R.D.C. Offices, Crickhowell.
Hay Rural:	Mr. Garfield G. Evans, Tower House, Talgarth.
Vaynor and Penderyn Rural:	Mr. S. P. Harris, M.S.I.A., A.R.S.I., 47a High Street, Bank Chambers, Merthyr Tydfil.
Ystradgynlais Rural:	Mr. W. Emlyn Jones, M.R.C.I., M.I.S.A., Council Offices, Ystrad- gynlais.

## GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (Square miles)	...	733
Area (Acres)	...	469,281
Population (1931 Census)	...	57,775
„ (1939 Census)	...	54,357
„ estimated to Middle of 1954	...	55,500
Rateable Value (1st April, 1953)	...	£311,227
Sum represented by a 1d. rate, 1953/54	...	£1,225

## NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946.

**Section 21.—Health Centres:** Again it has not been possible to make any progress in the provision of Health Centres but the matter is still before the Committee.

**Section 22. — Care of Mothers and Young Children:** This Section covers the following activities:—(a) Ante-natal clinics, (b) Post-natal clinics, (c) Child welfare clinics, (d) Day nurseries and residential nurseries, (e) Mother and baby homes, (f) Dental treatment given to expectant or nursing mothers, and children under 5 years of age, (g) care of premature infants, (h) Ophthalmia Neonatorum, and Maternal Deaths, etc., and replaces the old heading of Maternity and Child Welfare.

Information and figures relating to the various sections are given below:—

**Care of Premature Infants,** i.e., babies weighing  $5\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. or less at birth, irrespective of period of gestation.—

Special equipment for the domiciliary nursing of premature infants is held at the offices of the local health authority.

If found necessary to admit such infants to hospitals, the local hospital authority would be approached by the nurse or midwife and the greatest possible assistance would be given to arrange accommodation.

During 1954 the number of notifications of premature births in the County, after correction, was as follows:—

(1) **Premature Live Births.**

(a) Total Number of Premature Live Births in the Area	59
(b) Number of Premature Live Births at Home	... 18
* (c) Number of Premature Live Births in Private Nursing Homes	... Nil
(d) Number of Premature Live Births in Hospitals	... 41



**(2) Premature Still Births.**

(a) Total Number of Premature Still Births in the Area	10
(b) Number of Premature Still Births at Home	3
* (c) Number of Premature Still Births in Private Nursing Homes	1
(d) Number of Still Births in Hospitals	6

\* Including Maternity Homes not in the National Health Service and Mother and Baby Homes where the women are confined in the Home.

During the year all cases of premature births have been followed up, including those delivered in hospitals, which has necessitated the interchange of records between Local Health Authorities. The co-operation of the hospitals has been freely given and the information required is provided by them.

Table VIII appended to this report shows the weight of the infants at birth and the numbers of infants who survived 28 days.

**Complicated Maternity Cases.**

The selection of cases for hospital confinements is undertaken by the department. Such cases are brought to the notice of the authority in four ways:—(1) the general practitioner, (2) the Clinic Medical Officer, (3) the midwife, or (4) the patient herself. In each individual case a report is then obtained on the housing conditions (or other social defects) and consideration is given to the question of whether hospital accommodation is required. Where the request for a hospital confinement is based solely on lack of assistance, this is in some cases overcome by the provision of domestic help, though the extent to which this help can be given depends on the domestic helps available and the accessibility of the home. Having decided that the case requires accommodation in hospital, a request is then made to the most convenient hospital to book the case for accommodation.

Three hospitals in Breconshire admit maternity cases:—

Brecon War Memorial Hospital	... 2 beds.
Crickhowell War Memorial Hospital	7 beds.
Builth Cottage Hospital	... 3 beds.

In addition, accommodation is provided for Breconshire cases at the following hospitals outside the county borders:—

Hereford County Hospital.  
 Blaina and District Hospital.  
 St. James Hospital, Tredegar.  
 Gwanffarren Maternity Home, Merthyr Tydfil.  
 St. Tydfil's Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil.  
 Neath General Hospital.  
 Abergavenny Cottage Hospital (occasionally).  
 Llandrindod County Hospital (occasionally).

In numerous instances it is necessary for a patient to be conveyed 20 miles or more to the nearest hospital where accommodation can be found and possibly the patients from Brecon Town and the surrounding countryside fare worse in this respect because of the added distance to any of the larger hospitals in the above lists.

During 1952, 528 births occurred in hospitals out of a total of 859; for 1953, 540 births in hospitals out of 880; and for 1954, 513 out of 829 births. These figures give a percentage of 61.4%, 61.3% and 61.8% respectively for each year for hospital confinements in relation to the total births.

Generally speaking, cases are not selected by the local health authority for admission to hospitals on social grounds. The local health authority selections are primarily made on account of unsuitable housing conditions. Very frequently, however, practitioners succeeded in obtaining accommodation for their patients by arrangement direct with the hospital; this particularly applies in the Builth and Crickhowell areas, though other hospitals have tightened up their procedure for admission and have requested a report by the local Health Authority before consideration can be given to the cases.

During 1954 the following cases were admitted to hospital through the Health Department on account of bad housing, bad home conditions, or for medical reasons.

Brecon, 38; Neath General, 45; St. Tydfil's (Merthyr Tydfil), 6; Crickhowell, 10; Gwaunfarren Maternity Home, 18; St. James, Tredegar, 5; Hereford County Hospital, 10; Amman Valley, 2; Builth Cottage Hospital, 1; Beresford Nursing Home, 1.

### Child Welfare Centres.

Child Welfare Centres are held throughout the County at the following places and at the times shown:—

#### Centre and Place of Meeting.

#### Day and Time of Meeting.

1	Abercrave—Miners' Welfare Hall	..	4th Wednesday in month at 2 p.m.
2	Brecon—Clinic, Watton Offices	...	3rd Friday in month at 2 p.m.
3	Brynmaur—School Clinic	...	1st and 3rd Wednesday in month at 2 p.m.
4	Builth Wells—Park House, Park Road	...	1st Tuesday in month at 2 p.m.
	Builth Wells	...	
5	Cefn Coed—School Clinic	...	3rd Monday in month at 2 p.m.
6	Colbren—Miners' Welfare Hall	...	2nd Monday in month at 2 p.m.
7	Crickhowell—Senior School	...	4th Thursday in month at 1-30 p.m.
8	Cwmtyreh—Miners' Welfare Hall	...	4th Wednesday in month at 2 p.m.
9	Dafenfelen—Welfare Hall	...	2nd Thursday in month at 10 a.m.
10	Defynock—Reading Room, Sennybridge	...	3rd Tuesday in month at 2 p.m.
11	Gilwern—Church Hall	...	4th Thursday in month at 1-30 p.m.
12	Hay—Wesley Hall, Oxford Road	...	4th Thursday in month at 10 a.m.
13	Hirwaun—Bethel Church Vestry	...	Tuesdays, weekly.
14	Llanwrtyd Wells—War Mem. Institute	...	1st Friday in month at 2 p.m.
15	Talgarth—Town Hall	...	4th Tuesday in month at 2 p.m.
16	Ystradgynlais—School Clinic	...	1st and 3rd Thursday in month at 2 p.m.
17	Tirabad—Village Hall	...	2nd Friday in month at 2 p.m.

During the year one new clinic was opened at Tirabad (Llandulas) to cater for the mothers and babies living in the Forestry Estate, but two clinics were curtailed by one session each owing to the demands upon the time of the Assistant

Medical Officer. Abercrave and Cefn Coed now only meet once per month.

When necessary, cases are referred to their own doctors or to Hospital for treatment or consultation.

The clinic held fortnightly at the Bethel Church Vestry, Hirwaun, is organised by the Glamorgan County Council, and mothers from the Vaynor and Penderyn district of Breconshire are catered for by arrangement with Glamorgan. Breconshire pays a proportionate cost of this clinic based on the population of the area covered and a Breconshire health visitor attends regularly.

### **Ante-Natal Clinics.**

Facilities for ante-natal examinations are provided by the local health authority at the following centres where one of the Assistant Medical Officers is in attendance. These clinics are held at the times and places stated:—

1. Abercrave: 4th Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
2. Brynmawr: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
3. Cefn Coed: 3rd Mondays, a.m.
4. Ystradgynlais: 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
5. Devynock: 3rd Tuesday, at 11 a.m.
6. Brecon: 3rd Friday, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.
7. Hirwaun: Bethel Church Vestry, fortnightly, Tuesdays, 9.30 a.m.

These clinics are held in:—One Welfare Hall, one converted dwelling house, and one church vestry, which are all hired premises, one school and three permanent clinic premises which are owned by the Education Authority and/or the Local Health Authority.

The clinic at Hirwaun is now conducted fortnightly by the Glamorgan County Council and persons from the Hirwaun and Penderyn portion of Breconshire attend under a joint arrangement between the two authorities.

As a result of discussions between the Local Health Authority and the Local Medical Committee, reports are sent to the General Practitioners in respect of their patients in attendance at the Ante-Natal Clinics.

### **Post-Natal Clinics.**

There are no specially held post-natal clinics—all patients attend the ante-natal sessions.

### **Specialist Clinics.**

There are no specialist clinics held under the auspices of the local health authority.

### **Assistance given at Clinics in General Practitioners' own Premises.**

Assistance is not normally given at clinics held in general practitioners' own premises apart from the district nurse/midwives attending at surgeries with their patients when requested to do so.

### **Blood Testing.**

Arrangements are made for collecting blood specimens at the clinics and these are sent to the Beck Laboratory, Swansea, or the Family Planning Association.

### **Institutional Provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants, and Homeless Children in the District—**

Arrangements are made with the Swansea and Brecon Moral Welfare Association to carry out this work in return for grant paid, the Health Authority being responsible for the maintenance of the mother for approximately one month before the confinement and for a period of 14 days after birth. Maintenance after this date becomes the responsibility of the Welfare Committee, who also give the Association an Annual Grant of £100.

During the year arrangements were made for the accommodation of two mothers.

### **Mothercraft Training.**

No special clinics are held for this purpose since all advice is given by the health visitors in the course of their rounds.

### **Maternity Outfits.**

Maternity outfits are distributed free of charge to expectant mothers by the midwives who are booked for the cases. The outfit provided is a standard sterilised pack, supplied by a manufacturer of surgical dressings.

Necessary items required for the lying in, which are not included in the maternity outfit, are provided by the midwife attending the case.

**Day Nurseries, Hospitals for Children, and Mother and Baby Homes.**—There are none in the County. The Education Committee has one Nursery School at Brynmawr.

### **Ophthalmia Neonatorum—**

Number of cases in 1944, in which

(a) vision was unimpaired	... 1
(b) vision impaired	... Nil
(c) vision lost	... Nil
(d) patient died	... Nil
(e) patient still under treatment at end of year	... Nil
(f) patient removed from district	... Nil
(g) classification under above heads cannot be made	... Nil



## Maternal Deaths—

During the year 3 maternal deaths were assigned by the Registrar General to this County, 2 from Brynmawr Urban District and 1 from Builth Rural District. Such a figure in respect of maternal deaths reflects adversely on the County in the annual statistics and gives a rate of 3.58 per 1,000 births.

Since the number of deaths could not be reconciled with the local information the matter was taken up with the Registrar General, and from the answer received it is apparent that the figure of three is not strictly true in respect of 1954, as one of the deaths occurred in November 1953, but was not counted in that year as the notification of death was evidently delayed due to a Coroner's Inquest being held.

If, therefore, we take the number of deaths coming within this category as two then the rate would be 2.39 per 1,000 births.

In the other two cases the deaths occurred outside the County and the information as to death provided on the Transferable Death Slip was insufficient in one case to justify the conclusion that the death came within this category.

### (a) Number of women who died in consequence of childbirth during the year:—

		From Sepsis.	From Other Causes.	Totals.
Confined at home	...	—	—	—
Confined in Nursing Home or Hospital	...	1	2	3

### (b) Number of women who died:—

At home	...	Nil
In nursing homes	...	Nil
After removal to an Institution	...	3

## Supply of Dried Milk, etc.

The Supply of proprietary brands of dried milk is not undertaken at the clinics. The demand for the various brands is so small that stocks would deteriorate before being used. In parts of the County there is a system of chits being used which enable Cow and Gate or Ostermilk to be purchased from the local chemists at a slightly cheaper rate. This scheme is dependent on the readiness of the local chemists to honour these vouchers or even to stock the brand of milk. Many chemists consider that the demand is so small that they do not feel it justifies them taking part in any such scheme. The majority of children in the county are fed on National Dried Milk.



The local health authority has arranged for the supply of Scots Twin Pack cereal at clinics. This is sold at a cheap rate.

### **Distribution of Welfare Foods.**

Circular 10/54, dated 7th April, 1954, from the Welsh Board of Health, informed Local Health Authorities, that when local offices of the Ministry of Health closed at or about the end of June the functions with regard to the distribution of Welfare Foods would be taken over by them. The foods coming within the category of "Welfare Foods" being National Dried Milk, Orange Juice, Cod Liver Oil, and Vitamin Tablets.

Arrangements were accordingly made to carry out these duties and on the 14th July, 1955, they were completed, all transfers of stocks had then been made and the County Council undertook these duties under Section 22 of the National Health Service Act, 1946. Much helpful information and advice was given by the Officers employed by the Ministry of Labour and National Insurance and the Ministry of Food during this time which resulted in the transfer being effected so smoothly.

From information received it appeared that a number of Voluntary Distributors were issuing these Welfare Foods and, indeed, in a rural area such as Breconshire it is difficult to envisage how such a scheme could be carried out without their help without the cost being prohibitive.

The Scheme, therefore, commenced in this County with 7 main distribution centres and 24 voluntary distributors located at shops and private houses.

Reference must here be made to the assistance given to this scheme at the commencement when the Nurses manned the main distribution centres on a rota until such time as an officer could be appointed to undertake the duties. At the time the nurses were prepared to do more than was actually required, but as it was considered absolutely necessary to relieve them of these duties at the earliest opportunity they were only required to do the maximum amount that could be undertaken by the officer whose appointment was pending, thus ensuring that on his appointment the nurses were entirely relieved of this work in connection with the distribution of Welfare Foods. I wish therefore, to place on record my appreciation of the assistance given by the Nursing Staff.

The main distribution points throughout the County are as follows, with the days and times of opening:—

District.		Address of Centre.	Day.	Times.
Builth Wells	..	The Clinic, Park House, Builth Wells.	Monday	10 a.m. 1.30 p.m.
Llanwrtyd Wells	..	Memorial Institute, Llanwrtyd Wells	Monday	2.30 p.m. 4 p.m.
Brynmawr	...	The Clinic, Bailey Street, Brynmawr	Tuesday	10 a.m. 1 p.m. 2 p.m. 4 p.m.
Ystradgynlais	...	The Clinic, Derwen Road, Ystradgynlais.	Wednesday	10 a.m. 1 p.m. 2 p.m. 4 p.m.
Hay-on-Wye	...	Belle Vue, Hay-on-Wye.	Thursday	10 a.m. 12.30 p.m.
Crickhowell	...	The Clinic, Market Hall, Crickhowell.	Thursday	2 p.m. 4 p.m.

The officer to undertake the distribution of Welfare Foods was duly appointed and took up his duties on 16th August, 1954. He attends the above-mentioned centres and also delivers to six voluntary distributors.

In the Crickhowell Area there are six voluntary distributors who will only undertake the actual issuing of stocks to their customers, the stamping of coupons, checking of stocks, and completion of the necessary returns are left to another voluntary distributor who delivers to these points, having obtained supplies from the main centre at Crickhowell. Mr. E. R. Morgan, Pentwyn, Gilwern, undertook this task for the Food Officer prior to the transfer of these functions, and he has expressed his willingness to continue with the Breconshire County Council—merely requesting re-inbursement of his travelling expenses.

During the year there has been very little change in the list of voluntary distributors. Thanks are due to all these volunteers for their services which have permitted the scheme to operate so efficiently with the minimum whole-time staff.

Formal approval to the above scheme was given by the Welsh Board of Health in their letter dated 8th November, 1954, reference No. L.S. 5/222/1.

### Dental Care of Mothers and Young Children.

Treatment has been provided for expectant and nursing mothers and children under 5 years of age by the School Dental Staff at the following clinics:—

Brecon, Brynmawr, Cefn Coed, and Ystradgynlais.

Treatment will also be available early in the new year at the clinic in Crickhowell, as these premises are now nearing completion.

The figures given in Table VII show that increasing numbers of expectant and nursing mothers are taking advantage of the facilities for treatment. A greater number of pre-school age children also were treated than in 1953. With the exception of dressings, the figures for all types of treatment show an increase on those for the previous year.

For expectant and nursing mothers 385 teeth were extracted

compared with 85 in 1953, 29 fillings against 11 in 1953, 39 dentures were provided compared with 2 in 1953.

If the trend continues in 1955 it is doubtful whether one-eleventh of the Dental Officers' time, which is allotted to this work, will prove sufficient to provide adequate treatment.

Details of patients examined and treatment carried out during the year are shown in Table VII at the end of this report.

### **Section 23—Midwifery Service—**

Under the provisions of Section 23 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the local health authority has fulfilled its obligations by covering its area with a sufficient number of qualified midwives to meet the needs thereof. To this end the Authority had in its employ on the 31st December, 1954, 1 whole-time and 23 part-time midwives, giving an equivalent whole-time staff of 6.75 midwives available to attend upon women being confined in their own homes. In addition to these there were 6 private midwives and 13 hospital midwives practising in the County during 1954, the total number practising midwives during the year being 45.

One Superintendent Nursing Officer is employed, who is also the Non-Medical Supervisor of Midwives. Periodic inspections are made to the midwives employed by the local health authority, and visits made to midwives not employed by the local health authority.

Tables dealing with midwifery, notification of births, etc., are given below:—

#### **Supervision of Midwives—**

Fifty Midwives notified their intention to practice in the County, viz., 46 resident and 4 border midwives.

Of the above—

14 were resident in Institutions.

5 were in independent practice.

31 were employed by the County Council: County, 27  
Border, 4.

During the year, of the resident midwives 15 left the County.

#### **Ante-Natal Supervision by Midwives—**

Domiciliary midwives undertake ante-natal supervision of their patients. This supervision is backed by a comprehensive service provided by the general practitioners, the local health authority at their ante-natal clinics, and the Hospital Service.

The domiciliary midwives work in close co-operation with the local general practitioners undertaking maternity medical services. They attend with these patients whenever required to do so, at the doctors' surgeries. Doctors are notified of births by the Public Health Department within a week of the notifications of birth being received. This has been arranged at the instigation of the Local Medical Committee.

**Notification from Midwives during 1954—**

48 Forms of sending for Medical Aid were received:—43 for mothers and 5 for children.

An analysis of the causes for summoning medical aid is given below:—

**For the Mother:—**

Miscarriage, Abortion, actual or threatened...	3
Contracted Pelvis	...
Hæmorrhage, ante and post partum	4
Prolonged, obstructed and labour inertia	2
Malpresentation or Malposition	2
Other illnesses during pregnancy	...
Retained or adherent placenta or membranes...	2
Ruptured perineum	20
Unsatisfactory condition of mother	5
Pyrexia	...
Premature Labour	...
Albuminuria	...
Breech	1
Phlebitis	...
Ante-Natal—re position	...
Post Maturity	...
Oedema of Feet and Ankles	1
Oedema of Legs and Ankles	1
Oedema of Face and Legs	1
Oedema of Face and Hands	...
Hæmorrhoids	...
Prolapsed Cord	...
Hypertension	...
Hydramnios	...
Mastitis	...
No Foetal Heart heard	...
Patient's Nervous Condition	...
Head on Perineum and no advance	...
Foetal Distress	1
Still Birth	...
Episiotomy Suturing	...

**For the Child:—**

Premature or feebleness	...
Deformity or abnormality	...
Eye Infections	2
Unsatisfactory Conditions	1
Skin Condition	...
Jaundice	1
Stillbirth	...
Cyanosis	...
Nasal Obstruction	...



Convulsions	...	—
White Asphyxia	...	1
Tight Foreskin	...	—
Blue Asphyxia	...	—

In some cases, one Medical Aid Form was used for several different causes.

**Fees of Doctors called in under Midwives Act, 1918—Section 14 and N.H.S. (Amendment) Act, 1949, Section 29(2).**

No. of cases in which General Practitioners claimed payment in respect of Medical Aid Forms	}	2
...		
Total amount of Claims paid	...	£11. 3. 6.

**Breaches of Central Midwives Board Rules.**—No breaches of the rules occurred in the year.

**Administration of Analgesics.**

23 midwives employed by the local health authority are qualified to administer gas and air analgesia to patients under their care. The authority has supplied apparatus to all these midwives. Only one midwife employed by the local health authority is not qualified to administer gas and air analgesia—she is considered unsuitable for training on account of age.

1. Number of midwives in practice in the area, including private and hospital nurses qualified to administer analgesics, in accordance with the requirements of the Central Midwives Board:—

(a) Domiciliary	...	25
(b) In Institutions	...	6

Total ... 31

2. Number of cases in which analgesics were administered by midwives in domiciliary practice during the year ... 145
3. Number of midwives trained in the year ... —
4. Total number of sets of Minnitts Gas and Air Apparatus supplied by the Council ... 27
5. Number of cases in which Pethedine was administered by Midwives in Domiciliary practice during the year ... 26

**Refresher Courses for Midwives.**

Owing to the difficulty of sparing staff, no midwives have undergone refresher courses.



### Training of Pupil Midwives.

No facilities exist for the actual training of pupil midwives within the County.

### Notification of Births.

The following notifications of births were received during the year: Live Births 597; Still Births 13; making a total of 610.

These births were attended by:—

District Nurse Midwives: County	311; Border 0	... 311
Private Midwives: County	5; Border 0	... 5
Hospital and Institutional Midwives		... 294

Number of Births notified in the Authority's Area during 1954 under Section 203 of the Public Health Act, 1936, as adjusted by any transferred notifications:—

(a) Live Births, 810; (b) Still Births, 19; (c) Total, 829.

### Section 24—Health Visiting.

The health visiting staff consists of 1 Superintendent Nursing Officer, 1 whole-time and 17 part-time health visitors, who also act as district nurses and/or school nurses; 9 of these nurses perform duties of Health Visitors under dispensation by the Minister of Health.

The Health Visitors visit monthly children under one year of age and thereafter at three-monthly intervals those between one and five years, although the two-year-olds are visited more frequently. Health visitors are also called upon to investigate cases requiring domestic help to ease the strain of this work on the Domestic Help Supervisor, who is also the County Superintendent Nursing Officer.

In addition to health visiting of expectant and nursing mothers of young children, the health visiting staff works in close co-operation with the hospitals. When notices of discharges are received from the hospitals these are forwarded to the appropriate health visitor for the area giving the diagnosis, treatment and recommendation as to further treatment. In some instances the health visitor, being also the district nurse, undertakes any practical nursing required.

The Council has in the past offered scholarships to suitable candidates who are prepared to train for the Health Visitors Certificate, and during the year this grant was increased to £250. This is generally undertaken as a combined training under the auspices of the Queen's Institute of District Nursing or at some other recognised course.

Grants were made to two nurses during the year and the candidates undertook their training at Battersea Polytechnic and the Welsh School of Medicine respectively.

There are no facilities for the training of student health visitors within the County.

One Health Visitor on the staff attended a refresher course in London during 1954.

Particulars of the number of visits paid to mothers and babies are to be found in Table VI appended.

### Section 25—Home Nursing.

A whole-time nursing service is provided by the local health authority. The staff consists of two whole-time and 24 part-time nurses, giving an equivalent of 11 full-time nurses. The nurses in the various districts co-operate to the fullest extent and work in conjunction with the general practitioners. The supervision of the nursing in the home is exercised by the Superintendent Nursing Officer. Liaison with the hospital and domiciliary nursing service does not generally exist in a direct nature. In the small hospitals within the County the doctors at the hospitals are normally the general practitioners who are already in close contact with the district nurses. In the case of the large base hospitals situated outside the County, the patient's doctor is aware of the requirements of discharged cases and he requests what attention is necessary. Also, as in the case of health visitors, hospitals contact the department when they require domiciliary nursing of any case being discharged.

Figures of cases of home visits paid and cases attended are given below:—

1. Number of visits paid by Home Nurses ... 43630
2. Number of cases attended by Home Nurses... 2123

### Classification and Proposition of Main Types of Cases attended by Home Nurses.

During the year, 2123 patients were nursed in the homes and 43,630 visits were made.

These cases were classified as follows:—

	Patients.	Visits.
Medical ...	1278	30778
Surgical ...	681	10326
Infectious Diseases ...	8	54
Tuberculosis ...	34	1207
Maternal Complications ...	12	52
Others ...	110	1213

### Section 26—Vaccination and Immunisation.

Under the provision of Section 26 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, arrangements are made for vaccination to be carried out by general practitioners and for immunisation against diphtheria by the general practitioners and at clinics by the local health authority's Medical Officers.

Health Visitors in their visits to the homes encourage the parents to avail themselves of the opportunity of having the children vaccinated.

Health Visitors also encourage the mothers to bring their children to the clinics for immunisation against diphtheria or take them to the general practitioner. Furthermore, the parent of each child is sent an individual notice at about the child's eighth month urging the mother to take advantage of the facilities available. Boosting injections of diphtheria prophylactic are given at five years and again at ten years. These last two boosting injections are usually given at schools or school clinics.

#### (a) Vaccination—

Vaccination can be carried out by the family doctors at their surgeries at the request of the parents, and practitioners who have expressed a wish to undertake this work are supplied with lymph free of charge on request to the appropriate Public Health Laboratory, and record cards are supplied from the Health Department on which to enter the necessary particulars, these cards being returned to the County Medical Officer for statistical purposes and for payment to the General Practitioner.

Vaccination is free of charge to the patient.

Figures of persons vaccinated each year from 1948 to 1954 are given below:—

Year.	Primary Vaccination.	Re-Vaccination.
1948	89	17
1949	112	16
1950	141	25
1951	215	69
1952	170	36
1953	191	30
1954	252	44

Figures of Persons vaccinated (or re-vaccinated) in 1954.

Age at 31st Dec., 1954 i.e., born in year ...	Under 1 1954	1 (1953)	2 to 4 1950 to 1952	5 to 14 1940 to 1949	15 or over (before 1939)	Total
Number Vaccinated ...	210	10	5	7	20	252
Number Re-Vaccinated	..	..	1	6	37	44

#### (b) Diphtheria Immunisation—

Diphtheria Immunisation work is being carried out quite satisfactorily at the various Infant Welfare Centres, on school premises and clinics, and from the figures obtainable to the end of the year, there is no doubt that the scheme is working most efficiently. In addition, children are immunised by private prac-

titioners at their surgeries, and record cards are provided by the Health Department. Completed records are returned for statistical purposes.

Number of children immunised during the year 1954 by Officers of the Council and by General Practitioners.

District	Primary Immunisation		Totals	Re-inforcing Dose
	Under 5	5—14		
Brecon Urban	99	18	117	146
Brynmawr Urban	61	36	97	143
Builth Urban	33	12	45	96
Hay Urban	19	19	38	66
Llanwrtyd Urban	10	..	10	5
Brecon Rural	81	6	87	168
Builth Rural	50	9	59	111
Crickhowell Rural	89	54	143	136
Hay Rural	33	13	46	93
Vaynor and Penderyn Rural	38	24	62	209
Ystradgynlais Rural	83	47	130	323
Totals, 1954	596	238	834	1496
Totals, 1953	458	105	563	839

On the 31st December, there were 7,552 children in the County who had completed a course of Immunisation at any time before that date. The number of children thus protected represents 59.0 per cent. of the estimated child population.

The following table shows the children in age groups who were immunised at the 31st December, 1954.

Age @ 31-12-54, i.e., born in years	Under 1 1954	1—4 1953—1950	5—9 1949—1945	10—14 1944—1940	Total
Number Immunised	33	2024	3228	2267	7552

### Immunisation against Whooping Cough.

The Council's Scheme for Vaccination and Immunisation, Section 26, has been extended to include the inoculation of children against whooping cough.

Proposals were submitted by the Health Committee to the Ministry of Health on the 13th May, 1954, and on the 19th July, 1955, approval was granted by the Ministry to the amendment of the Council's original scheme by the substitution of the following.



- (a) Arrangements will be made for the inoculation of children against whooping cough at infant welfare centres or other suitable centres as will make these facilities as readily accessible as possible to all who wish to use them and will ensure that arrangements are made with sufficient frequency and at such hours as will meet local requirements.
- (b) The Council will give an opportunity to every practitioner providing general medical services in the area to undertake vaccination against whooping cough in his own surgery or at the home of the patient. Medical practitioners taking part in the Council's arrangements will be required to furnish particulars for record purposes in such standard form as may be recommended by the Ministry and the Council will keep records in a manner that will enable them to furnish such returns to the Ministry as may be required. Fees will be paid to the practitioners on the basis of the receipt of records as agreed with the profession.
- (c) The County Medical Officer will be responsible for deciding the antigen(s) to be used and made available to practitioners.

All interested persons were notified of the extension of the scheme in accordance with Section 20 of the National Health Service Act, 1946. In addition, all nurses and doctors were further notified of the extension which came into operation on 1st October, 1954.

Antigen is supplied to General Practitioners for the combined inoculation against Diphtheria-Pertussis, or a whooping cough vaccine itself.

### **Section 27—Ambulance Service.**

The Ambulance Services in the County are undertaken by the St. John's Welsh Home Ambulance Service Association who act as sole agents for the County.

Eight ambulances are used in the service—four provided directly by the authority and four provided by St. John's. All are however, under the direct control of St. John's for operational purposes. The day to day administration is the responsibility of the County Medical Officer on behalf of the local health authority. The ambulance arrangements remain as follow:—St. John Ambulance Stations are established at Brecon, Builth, Crickhowell, Hay, Brynmawr, and Ystradgynlais.

1. Brecon Ambulances.—Two ambulances cover Brecon Borough and the whole of Brecon Rural District.
2. Builth Ambulance covers Builth Urban, Llanwrtyd Urban, and Builth Rural District, with the exception of the parish of Llanwrthwl at the very north of the County. This ambulance will also, by arrangement with Radnorshire, in emergency cases only, continue to cover as heretofore a small



area of the County adjoining Builth Urban, viz., the parishes of Llanelwedd, Llansantffraed-in-Elvel, Aberedw, Disserth, Rhulen, Llanbadarn-y-garreg, Llanfaredw and Cregina, Glas-cwm and Colva. Radnorshire, on their part, will cover for us the three Breconshire parishes of Llysdinam, Llanfhangell Brynpabuan, and Llanwrthwl in the north of the County by their ambulance from Llandrindod Wells.

3. Hay Ambulance covers Hay Urban and Hay Rural Districts, together with the Radnorshire District of Painscastle Rural and villages of Newchurch and Michaelchurch-on-Arrow.
4. Crickhowell Ambulance covers the whole of the Crickhowell Rural District, other than Clydach and Darenfelen areas.
5. Brynmawr Ambulance.—An additional ambulance for the Brynmawr, Clydach, and Darenfelen areas was provided on the 1st April, 1950, by St. John's.

The Welsh Home Service Ambulance Committee act as sole agents of the authority for the above areas of the County and operates the Brecon, Builth, Hay, Crickhowell, and Brynmawr ambulances on terms mutually agreed and as may be approved by the Minister of Health from time to time. The Welsh Home Service Ambulance Committee is responsible for the operation and maintenance of an efficient ambulance service in these areas.

6. Ystradgynlais Ambulances.—Two ambulances owned by the local health authority in this area operate within the framework of the County Ambulance Service, are controlled by St. John's and are subject to the supervision of the County Medical Officer of Health.

Apart from what has been mentioned above, in connection with Radnorshire, there are two areas of the County, both situated on the southern border, for which arrangements have been made for them to be covered by outside authorities as follow:—

- (a) Vaynor and Penderyn Rural District, including the Brecon Rural appendage of Hepste. Glamorgan has undertaken to cover this area in their scheme by their ambulances stationed at Seven Sisters, Glynneath and Aberdare.
- (b) The Village of Cefn Coed and the adjoining Parish of Vaynor (Pontsticill). The Borough of Merthyr Tydfil has undertaken to include this area in their ambulance scheme.

Since a considerable number of people live in the rural part of the Penderyn parish situated on the eastern border of this parish where it adjoins the parish of Vaynor but live within easy access of the main Brecon-Merthyr road, arrangements have been made that these people should be covered for ambulance purposes by the Merthyr Borough, even though they actually live within part of the area for which Glamorgan has undertaken responsibility since it is much more easy to obtain ambulance transport from Merthyr and the Merthyr General Hospital is the one to which they always go when in need.

The arrangements with the Border counties have worked satisfactorily and the various difficulties which periodically arise are always smoothed out without any trouble. I think it can be reported again that the scheme is working very well.

A County Ambulance Transport Committee meets regularly, and includes representatives of the County Council, the Ystradgynlais District Ambulance Association, the Regional Hospital Board, and co-opted representatives of other interested bodies, together with the Welsh Home Service Ambulance Association, who operate the service.

The ambulances are mainly situated at garages under contract agreements between St. John and the proprietors, with the exception of the Ystradgynlais ambulances which are housed in a County Council garage at which three whole-time drivers are employed by St. John. It must be pointed out that in the Ystradgynlais area the ambulances also undertake the conveyance of all sitting case patients as well as those requiring ambulance transport.

### Sitting Car Service.

This service is running quite efficiently and works as follows:—

Each medical practitioner, midwife, hospital matron, etc., is supplied with voucher books authorising journeys to be made by private car at the expense of the local health authority in all cases where by reason of physical or mental defect the patient is unable to travel by public conveyance, and the starting point is situated within the County. The charges permitted are agreed by the local health authority, who advertise for tenders from car proprietors who are willing to undertake the conveyance of patients. For this purpose the County is divided into 13 areas which are covered by 10 contractors. The following table shews the contractors and the parishes covered during the year ending 31st March, 1955. At Ystradgynlais, sitting patients are conveyed by the ambulances since whole-time personnel are employed. Cefn Coed and Penderyn, although not covered by an official contractor, present no difficulties, much of the work being done by the bordering authority on our behalf, and a few isolated cases are conveyed by local garage proprietors.

#### Area

No.	Contractor.	Districts.
1.	T. J. Brown & Sons. 1. George St., Brynmaur.	Brynmaur, Darenfelen, and Clydach.
2.	Caine & Honeybun. The Garage, Llangynidr.	Llangynidr, Bwlch and Cwmdru.
3.	W. F. Price, Herbert Villa, New Road, Crickhowell.	Crickhowell, Gilwern, Grwynefawr, Grwynefechan, Llanbedr, Llangattock, Llangenny, Partrishow.

Area No.	Contractor.	Districts.
4.	Brecon Motors, Watton, Brecon.	.. Borough of Brecon, Parishes of Merthyr Cynog, Llanddew, Llandefaelogfach, Battle, Aberyscir, Vennyfach, Llanspyddid, St. David's Without, Glyn, Modrydd, Cantref, Llanfrynach, Llanhamlach, Llanwern, Llansantraed, Llanfihangel Talyllyn, Llangasty Talyllyn, Cathedine, Llangorse, Llanfillo, and Llanfigan (excepting Torpantau) and Llandetty (excepting Pontsticill and Dolygaer).
5.	E. Haydn Williams, Haulfryn, Sennybridge.	.. Parishes of Llandeilorfan, Llanfihangel Nantbran, Trallong, Yscltydach, Traianmawr, Traiangelas, Cray, Senny, Maescar, and Penpont.
6 and 7.	No Tenders	.. Vaynor, Pendercryn and Ystradfellte.
8.	W. R. Powell, The Garage, Llanwrtyd.	.. Urban District of Llanwrtyd, and Parishes of Llanwrtyd Without, Llandulas, Penbualt, Gwarafog, Llanafanfychan, Llanlleonfell, Llanafanfawr, Llanfihangel Abergwessin, Llandewi Abergwessin, Trefis.
9.	H. T. Price Ltd., Builth Motor Garage, Builth Wells.	.. Urban District of Builth and Parishes of Rhosferig, Llanganten, Llanynis, Maesmynis, Llangynog, Llandewi'r Cwm and Alltmawr.
10.	E. D. Morgan, Dolgai, Llanwrthwl.	.. Llanwrthwl, Llys dinam (Breconshire) and Llanfihangel Brynpabuan.
11.	H. V. Webb & Sons, Lion Garage, Hay-on-Wye.	.. Urban District of Hay, and Parishes of Hay Rural, Llanigon, and Tregoyd and Velindre.
12.	A. H. Davies, New Inn, Talgarth.	.. Talgarth, Llanelieu, Llandefalle (Southern half), Bronllys, Aberllynfi and Pipton.
13.	Davies & Son, Wye Garage, Llyswen.	.. Llyswen, Gwenddwr, Crickadarn, Llandefalle (Northern half).

No tenders were received in respect of Districts No. 6 and 7—Vaynor, Pendercryn, and Ystradfellte — but the Sub-Committee understand that the firm providing the cars for this service are prepared to continue on terms which differ very little from the foregoing contracts.

The Sub-Committee would point out that no tenders were invited and, therefore, no contracts entered into in respect of the Ystradgynlais District, in view of the fact that this district is at

present adequately covered by the County Council's ambulances operating in that district.

The Ambulance Service in Breconshire has no 24-hour central control but on the whole the service operates very smoothly indeed, in spite of this. Much consideration has been given to the question of central control and the question has also been subjected to considerable investigation by the officers of the Welsh Board of Health and the Ministry of Health, with the conclusion that a compromise has been arranged whereby a 24-hour service is guaranteed by the garages, and the County Health Department can act as central control during office hours. Calls for sitting cars during the day are normally made from hospitals outside the County to the County Health Department or to one of the ambulance stations. Requests from doctors within the County are made direct to the various contractors.

The limit of 40 miles, over which it is necessary to obtain prior approval from the County Medical Officer, continues to be imposed under the new contracts and has enabled the local health authority to combine a considerable number of journeys thereby reducing the cost accordingly.

Doctors and hospitals are from time to time reminded of economy and letters have been repeatedly written to hospitals requesting them to change times of appointments in order to fit in more than one patient in a car proceeding to the hospital.

The inconvenience and remote situation of many dwellings must have a direct bearing on the demand for transport under this scheme and although general practitioners are being constantly informed of this, it is inevitable that it must tend to increase the demand.

There does not appear to be any deliberate abuse of the scheme, which the local health authority supervises very carefully for any irregularities. Apart from the above, there were no difficulties encountered.

Since the inception of the scheme, the demands made upon the services have steadily increased and the following figures, as well as giving statistics for 1954, include figures for previous years to indicate the increasing demands. It will be noted that a substantial increase occurred during the year.



Figures of the ambulance and sitting-car services during 1954 are given below:—

### Ambulance Service.

Ambulance Station	Number of Journ'ys	Patients Carried		Total Patients Carried	Total Miles Tr'v'll d	Accidents
		Str'tchr	Sitting			
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
Brecon ...	311	330	112	442	15120	44
Brynmawr ...	233	240	18	258	4481	27
Builth ...	251	267	22	289	8382	14
Crickhowell ...	310	453	24	477	11296	19
Hay ...	96	110	17	127	5358	25
Ystrad'lais ...	1217	968	4128	5096	52211	86
Totals ...	2418	2368	4321	6689	96848	215
1953 ...	1990	1813	2868	4681	79568	151
1952 ...	1775	1518	2582	4100	72231	161
1951 ...	1697	1331	2403	3734	72684	129
1950 ...	1395	—	—	2913	67874	129
1949 ...	1216	—	—	2475	52668	90

### Sitting Car Service—1954.

Month.	Journeys.	Patients.	Mileage.
January ..	402	816	11375
February ..	339	701	10050
March ..	479	1021	13650
April ..	394	820	11827
May ..	436	934	12145
June ..	464	1013	14864
July ..	395	930	11994
August ..	448	934	11834
September ..	415	907	12099
October ..	424	879	13256
November ..	408	848	12601
December ..	471	937	12600
Total ..	5075	10740	148295
1953 ..	4610	9786	132060
1952 ..	4223	8693	119638
1951 ..	3577	5804	107172
1950 ..	2690	2736	84205
1949 ..	2064	2129	63045

## Section 28.—Prevention of Illness, Care and After-Care.

Under this heading comes the after-care of patients suffering from tuberculosis, mental illness or defectiveness, all types of illnesses, the provision of equipment and apparatus (medical comforts) required for nursing the patients in the homes, and accommodation in recuperation homes. The local health authority, as was the case previously, is responsible for the provision of extra nourishment and clothes for the patient and his family, except in the case of patients who are in receipt of National Assistance, when these items would be the responsibility of the National Assistance Board. Provision of out-door shelters, special beds and bedding, and other nursing requisites, etc., is the concern of the local health authority, and applicants for any of these services are dealt with after furnishing particulars of all members of the family income, etc. When assistance is given, it is either free of charge or on whole or part payment by the patient. The amount of payment to be made by the patient is assessed on an income scale adopted by the local health authority and approved by the Ministry of Health.

Such items as wheel-chairs and crutches are provided by the County Council if the need is a temporary one, but if the necessity is likely to be permanent, then the responsibility for the provision of the articles rests with the Regional Hospital Board, such items being supplied through the Ministry of Pensions. Any applications of this nature are forwarded by this Department to the appropriate Hospital Management Committee requesting them to deal with the case.

Nursing requisites of a minor nature are provided free in all cases.

(1) **Tuberculosis.** — The treatment of Tuberculosis in the County is carried on by the Welsh Regional Hospital Board (Tuberculosis Division). Table V (appended) shows the number of cases notified on Form "A" during the year.

Where necessary, the local health authority will provide tuberculosis patients with shelters on loan, and extra nourishment can be provided by the local health authority for them. The health visitors visit households in which there are tuberculosis patients and offer advice as to contacts and preventive measures which should be taken by them. Cases of bad housing conditions are referred to the local housing authorities.

The local health authority, with the Regional Hospital Board, arrange for the joint appointment of a medical officer who is employed in connection with the local health authority's services in relation to the prevention of illness, care and after-care of persons suffering from tuberculosis.

The Domestic Help Scheme under Section 29 also plays its part in the prevention of illness, care and after-care of these cases.

The Time Tables of the Tuberculosis Chest Physicians are as follows:—

Name and Address of Chest Clinic.	Dates of Attendance.	Times.
<u>1. Dr. D. I. Williams, 2, Bulwark, Brecon—Telephone 54.</u>		
Brecon	.. Tuesdays	.. 9.30 a.m.—Clinic. 11 a.m.—Consultations (Brecon Hospital). 2 p.m. Contacts Domiciliary Visits
	Fridays	.. 10 a.m.—New and old patients. 2 p.m.—Contacts
Builth Hospital Builth Wells	.. Mondays	.. 10.30 a.m.—Clinic and Consultation.
The Hospital Llandrindod	.. Mondays	.. 2 p.m.— Clinic and Consultation A.P. Refills.
Ystradgynlais-- at Adelina Patti Hospital	.. Wednesdays Thursdays	2 p.m.—Clinic .. 2 p.m.—Contacts. 3 p.m.—A.P. Clinic.

2. Dr. A. E. Aslett, "Hawthorns," Courtland Terrace, Merthyr Tydfil—  
Telephone 129.

For Cefn, Vaynor and Pontsticill Patients.

Courtland Terrace Merthyr Tydfil	.. Monday	.. 2 p.m.—New and Old cases.
	Wednesday	.. 9.30—Contacts (by ap- pointment).
	Wednesday	.. 2 p.m.—New and Old cases.
	Thursday	.. 2 p.m.—A.P. Refill.
	1st Friday in month..	2 p.m.—Non - Pulmon- ary Consultation Clinic.

For Penderyn and Hirwaun Patients.

42, Cannon Street, Aberdare	.. Mondays & Thurs- days	.. 10 a.m. — New and old patients, Contacts
--------------------------------	-----------------------------	--

3. Dr. R. G. Prosser Evans, 107, London Road, Neath. Telephone,  
Neath 278.

For Pontneathvaughan.

107, London Road. Neath	.. Mondays, Wednes- days & Thursdays	9.30 a.m. to 12 noon Old and New Cases New Cases by Ap- pointment only
	Tuesdays & Thursdays	2 p.m. — 5 p.m. Domiciliary Visits, etc.
	Wednesdays, 2 p.m. ..	B.C.G. Contact Clinic
	3rd Tuesday of each month at 2 p.m.	After Care Clinic (Orthopaedic)

- | Name and Address<br>of Chest Clinic.                                     | Dates of Attendance.                                 | Times.  |
|--|--|---|
| 4. <u>Dr. F. W. Godbey, "Ennisclare," Llanarth Road, Pontllanfraith.</u> |  |   |
| <u>Telephone—Blackwood 3281.</u>   |  |   |
| "Ennisclare,"<br>Llanarth Road,<br>Pontllanfraith                        | .. Monday & Fridays ..<br><br>Other days and times.. | Old and New Cases<br>10 a.m.<br><br>Special Clinics and<br>Appointments |
| 5. <u>Dr. M. I. Jackson, Chest Clinic, 129, Stow Hill, Newport.</u>      |  |   |
| <u>Telephone, Newport 3748.</u>  |  |   |
| Maindiff Court Hospital,<br>Abergavenny.                                 | Thursdays, 10.30 a.m.                                | New and old patients<br>(By appointment<br>only).                       |

*Note.*—Brynmawr patients can also be seen at Blaina and District Hospital—Tuesdays—11 a.m. New and Old patients.

### B.C.G. Vaccination.

The Chest Physicians undertaking duties in Breconshire still undertake the work of B.C.G. Vaccination in the County Areas under their control in respect of contact cases and the following cases have been vaccinated during the years since 1951:—

1951	...	99 cases vaccinated
1952	...	43   ,,   ,,
1953	...	72   ,,   ,,
1954	...	92   ,,   ,,

On the 16th March, 1954, however, amended proposals were submitted to the Welsh Board of Health under Section 28, National Health Service Act, 1946, extending the Council's former scheme to include the vaccination of school children during their thirteenth year.

The scheme envisaged was one whereby the present medical staff might be able to do some small amount of B.C.G. Vaccination in a selected area or areas, if this could be fitted into the programme of work, and the decision to appoint additional medical staff for the work has been deferred pending further information. As the Ministry of Health had requested to be provided with certain observations concerning the scheme the formal approval of the Ministry was not received during the year under review, and was, in fact, not received until the 15th February, 1955.

### Mass Radiography (Welsh Regional Board).

The Mass Radiography Unit visited the County during 1954 and facilities were made available for both the general population and school children over 13 years of age to be examined. In the



Talgarth area, all the pupils of Talgarth C.P. Mixed School, irrespective of age, were given the opportunity of attending.

The following table shows the number of X-rays taken and the results notified. It will be seen that 5,011 persons were examined, 2 cases of pulmonary tuberculosis, 50 cases requiring further observations and 349 other abnormalities, were discovered.

SUMMARY of Mass Radiographic Survey carried out in Breconshire during 1954.

District.	Total Number Examined.	Number found to be abnormal.	Classification of abnormal cases.		
			(a) Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	(b) Requiring further observation.	(c) Other abnormalities of chest.
Sennybridge	99	7 or 7.07%	—	1 or 1.01%	6 or 6.06%
Builth Wells	412	16 or 3.88%	—	1 or 0.24%	15 or 3.64%
Crickhowell	507	25 or 4.93%	—	1 or 0.19%	24 or 4.74%
Talgarth	440	19 or 4.32%	—	8 or 1.82%	11 or 2.05%
Brynmaur	1166	162 or 13.89%	2 or 0.17%	13 or 1.11%	147 or 12.61%
Brecon	1120	44 or 3.93%	—	11 or 0.98%	33 or 2.95%
Ystradgynlais	1174	123 or 10.48%	—	14 or 1.19%	109 or 9.29%
Llanwrtyd Wells	93	5 or 5.37%	—	1 or 1.07%	4 or 4.30%
Totals	5011	401 or 8.02%	2 or 0.17%	50 or 0.99%	349 or 6.96%

## (2) Illness Generally—

Arrangements exist for the follow-up of all cases discharged from hospital and work in the after-care of patients is closely linked with the Domestic Help and Home Nursing Services.

Nursing equipment and apparatus are loaned to patients in accordance with a scale of assessment, but such items as air rings, bedrests, etc., are issued on loan free of charge. Items are loaned through St. John's, when the local health authority pay the loan charges, and also items have been purchased and loaned direct by the authority. As well as meeting the actual loan charges for the nursing equipment and apparatus, the local health authority has assisted the St. John's Association by allowing the use of suitable premises for storage if possible.

During the year the following action was taken by the local health authority in regard to applications received for assistance. There is no doubt that the St. John's Association meet quite a number of requests for assistance by direct arrangements between the Association and the applicant, and the local health authority has no knowledge of this.

No. of cases.	Article supplied or action taken.
---------------	-----------------------------------

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| 1.  | Air Cushion.  |
| 7.  | Air Rings.  |
| 5.  | Bed Pans.   |
| 10. | Bed Rests.  |
| 6.  | Rubber Sheeting.  |
| 2.  | Periods at convalescent home.   |
| 17. | Extra nourishment.  |
| 1.  | Wheel Chair (temporary).  |
| 3.  | Urinals.  |
| 9.  | Applications withdrawn.   |
| 1.  | Over scale.   |
| 3.  | Referred to appropriate authority, i.e.,<br>National Assistance Board, Hospital, etc. |

In addition to the above known applications, the nurses have for their own use such items as air rings and rubber sheeting which are loaned to patients.

### Orthopædic Work.

The treatment of orthopædic cases is undertaken and the services of Mr. A. O. Parker, the orthopædic specialist, Prince of Wales Hospital, Cardiff, and Mr. J. G. H. James, orthopædic specialist, Neath Hospital, who are officers of the Regional Hospital Board, are available. A full-time orthopædic sister, Miss I. B. Leeke, is on the staff of the local health authority.

Miss Leefe works in the fullest co-operation with the Hospital Service and assists at Mr. Parker's operation sessions at Brecon Hospital; the Hospital Management Committee re-imburse the local health authority for her services. Mr. James attends the Ystradgynlais Clinic.

Primarily the scheme for orthopaedic treatment affords treatment for school children since before the National Health Service Act, it was a scheme sponsored by the Education Committee for school children. This is gradually including adults which are referred to the orthopaedic sister by general practitioners though the treatment and supervision of adults must of necessity remain a very small proportion in view of the demands already made upon Miss Leefe's services by the school and under school age children.

The Surgeons pay special visits to the clinics arranged by the authority as required and during 1954 the following centres were visited showing the cases referred:—

CENTRE		Yst'lais 16-4-54	Yst'lais 13-9-54	Brecon 17-9-54
DATE OF EXAMINATION				
1.	Number of Children called up for Examination ...	40	33	63
2.	Number of Children Present and Examined ...	31	32	58
3.	Number found not to require Treatment...	—	—	3
4.	Number found to require Domiciliary or Clinic Treatment ...	24	19	48
5.	Number found to require Hospital Treatment ...	—	—	1
6.	For Further Observation ...	5	5	5
7.	For X-Ray ...	2	3	1

## VENEREAL DISEASES.—

The authority's health visitors are available for the visiting of these cases to encourage them to keep up their attendance at special clinics and continue with the prescribed treatment.

Apart from any assistance as above, treatment of V.D. is provided by the Regional Hospital Board. There are no treatment centres in the County and patients attend at Swansea Mount Pleasant Hospital, Hereford General Hospital, Royal Gwent Hospital, Newport, Cardiff Royal Infirmary, and Mardy Hospital, Merthyr Tydfil.

The figures relating to patients known to have been treated during 1954 are as follows:—

1. Number of patients on 1st January under treatment or observation:—

		Swansea Mount Pleasant Hospital.
Syphilis	...	1
Gonorrhœa	...	1
Others	...	1
Total		— 3

2. Number of persons dealt with for the first time and found to be suffering from:—

		Swansea Mount Pleasant Hospital.
Syphilis	...	—
Soft Chancre	...	—
Gonorrhœa	...	2
Conditions other than Venereal	...	3

3. Total number of attendances of all Breconshire patients at:—  
Swansea Mount Pleasant Hospital, 25.

No information has been received from the other hospitals as to the number of persons dealt with, etc.

**CANCER.** — During the year 113 deaths were recorded, giving a death rate of 2.03 per 1,000, as compared with 98 and a death rate of 1.75 in 1953.

### Section 29—DOMESTIC HELP.—

There is still an upward trend in the cost of the domestic help scheme, and this scheme is the most expensive service run by the Health Department. Help is given in cases of confinement, general illness (including tuberculosis) and chronic sick on a doctor's certificate and a visit from the Superintendent Nursing Officer acting as Domestic Help Supervisor.

All domestic helps are employed on a part-time basis and are paid on a hourly rate in respect of the work undertaken. Their supervision is undertaken by the Superintendent Nursing Officer, who used to visit each case personally to decide on the number of hours of help required before the domestic help was sent in, but the work has grown so enormously that much of it has to be delegated to the health visitors and nurses.

The cost of the Service to date is over £12,000 a year and patients' contributions are insignificant. The scheme has worked well but it is dependent entirely upon the number of women throughout the country offering their services and this has not always been adequate to the demands in some areas.



The authority employs no whole-time domestic helps.

Number of Domestic Helps on roll call at 31st December, 1954:—(a) Whole-time, Nil; (b) Part-time, 89.

Number of cases where Domestic Help was provided during the year, together with the yearly figures since 1950 for comparison:—

	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950
Confinement Cases (including illness of Expectant Mothers) ..	31	25	35	41	54
Tuberculosis Cases ..	6	4	5	3	6
Chronic sick, including Aged and Infirm ..	154	115	94	89	68
Others ..	26	31			
Totals ..	217	175	134	133	128

### Section 51.—MENTAL HEALTH SERVICE.

In accordance with the proposals under Section 51 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, the responsibility in respect of mental illness and mental defectiveness has been assumed by the Mental Health Sub-Committee which is a sub-committee of the Health Committee, as follows:—

#### (1) Administration.

- (a) Committee responsible for Service.  
Mental Health Sub-Committee.
- (b) Number and Qualifications of Staff employed in the Mental Health Service.

Dr. W. F. W. Betenson, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., County Medical Officer of Health, is responsible for the work of ascertainment of mental defectives and administration. Dr. R. G. Evans, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., C.P.H., D.P.H., and Dr. C. M. Evans, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., are approved by the Council to act as approved doctors in the certification of mental defectives.

One Psychiatric Social Worker is employed by the Border Hospital Management Committee (Regional Hospital Board) who also gives part of her services to Breconshire patients. Breconshire, Radnorshire, and Montgomeryshire, together with the Regional Hospital Board, have an agreement whereby each contributes a proportion of the salary of this officer, and her clerical assistant.

Five Duly Authorised Officers, residue of the Relieving Officer staff prior to 1949, are engaged throughout the County, and these work in the five areas as follows:—

- (1) Brecon and Sennybridge.
- (2) Brynmawr and Crickhowell.

- (3) Builth and Talgarth.
- (4) Ystradgynlais.
- (5) Vaynor and Penderyn.

These officers give part-time service only and they are also Welfare Officers and Registrars of Births and Deaths.

Although these officials only give part-time service in the Mental Health field those at Brecon, Brynmawr and Hay are actually whole-time officials of the Council, whereas those at Vaynor and Penderyn and Ystradgynlais are only part-time officials.

(c) Co-ordination with Regional Hospital Boards and Hospital Committees.

One Psychiatric Social Worker is employed in conjunction with the Board's Hospital Management Committee.

Doubtful cases of mental deficiency are referred to the psychiatrist. In this connection the Medical Superintendent of the Mid-Wales Mental Hospital gives every possible help.

Patients on trial from Mental Hospitals are supervised by the Psychiatric Social Worker, and in some instances patients on licence from institutions for mental defectives are also visited by her. Visits are also made by the health visitors for the area to mental defectives on licence.

(d) Duties of the Local Health Authority under the Mental Treatment Act, Lunacy Acts and Mental Deficiency Acts, are carried out directly by officers of the Council, no duties being delegated to voluntary associations.

(e) Training of Staff.

No arrangements exist for the training of staff.

## (2) Account of Work undertaken in the Community.

(a) Section 28, National Health Service Act, 1946.

No occasion has arisen whereby the function of Section 28 has been necessary on account of mental illness or mental defectiveness. The services of domestic helps have, however, been allowed on account of the presence of a mental defective in the household.

(b) Under Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts, 1890 to 1930, by Duly Authorised Staff.

(i) During the year the duly authorised officers carried out the necessary duties under Section 14 of the Lunacy Act, 1890, to effect the certification of patients under Section 16 and subsequent removal to Mental Hospitals in the following cases:—

Brecon and District	...	6
Brynmawr and Crickhowell Districts		5
Builth and Talgarth Districts	...	5
Ystradgynlais District	...	—

- (ii) The following cases were also admitted to hospitals and in all cases the services of the duly authorised officers were available where required:—

Voluntary cases	...	82
Temporary cases	...	—
Urgency orders	...	1

- (iii) Other information—

- (a) Cases admitted to and discharged from Mental Hospitals during 1954:—

	Ad- mitted.	Dis- charged.	Died.
Certified Patients under Section 16 Lunacy Act, 1890 ...	17	7	11
Voluntary Patients, under Section 1, Mental Treatment Act, 1930 ...	82	51	11
Temporary Patients, under Section 5, Mental Treatment Act, 1930 ...	—	—	—
Patients under Sect. 20, Mental Treatment Act, 1930 ...	1	1	—

- (b) Actual number of Breconshire patients in Mental Hospitals on the 31st December, 1954:—

		Male.	Female.	Total.
Certified Patients	...	55	93	148
Voluntary Patients	...	28	29	57
Temporary Patients	...	—	—	—
		<hr/>		
Totals	...	83	132	205

*Note.*—For names and addresses of Duly Authorised Officers see under heading, National Assistance Act, 1948 (Welfare Services)—Page 47.

- (c) Under Mental Deficiency Act, 1913-1938—

(1) The ascertainment of mental defectives is undertaken by the County Medical Officer of Health (Dr. W. F. W. Betenson) who has been approved by the Board of Education to undertake the ascertainment of mental defective children in accordance with Section 57(3) of the Education Act, 1944.

Mental defectives under statutory supervision and on licence are visited by the health visitors or in some instances by the Psychiatric Social Worker.

- (2) Guardianship.

There are no patients under guardianship within the administrative county of Breconshire, neither are there any Breconshire cases under guardianship elsewhere.

(3) Arrangements for carrying out the statutory duty to provide occupation and training for defectives in the area.

The local health authority has no occupation or industrial centres for adults nor any method of home teaching. This matter has been under review by the Committee especially in regard to ineducable children, and was still under review at the end of the year.

On the 31st December, 1954, there were registered in the County the following mental defectives:—

	Male.	Female.	Total.
(a) Under Statutory Supervision—			
Under 16 years of age ...	3	5	8
Aged 16 years and over ...	44	45	89
(b) In Institutions—			
Under 16 years of age ...	1	1	2
Aged 16 years and over ...	10	20	30
(c) On Licence from Institutions—			
Under 16 years of age ...	—	—	—
Aged 16 years and over ...	1	4	5
(d) Patients certified in the year—			
Under 16 years of age ...	—	—	—
Aged 16 years and over ...	1	1	2

**Ambulance Services.**—The ambulance service for mentally ill patients is the same as set out in Section 27.

St. David's Hospital, Brecon, is recognised as a place of safety under Section 15 of the Mental Deficiency Act, 1913.

### Mental Hospital.

The Regional Hospital Board has one hospital in the County, viz., the Mid-Wales Hospital, Talgarth.

The Mid-Wales Hospital, Talgarth, is recognised as a place of safety under Section 20 of the Lunacy Act, 1890, and patients in need of control can, therefore, be admitted and detained there for not more than three days. The hospital has accommodation for both males and females.

### List of Doctors Approved under the Mental Treatment Act, 1930.

The following Doctors have been approved by the Welsh Board of Health for the purpose of making recommendations under the provisions of the above Act:—

#### Section 1 (3) and 5 (3).

- Dr. S. N. Chopra, Dunedin House, Alma Street, Brynmawr.
- Dr. T. L. Davies, Buckingham House, Brecon.
- Dr. G. Diggle, Chancefield, Talgarth.
- Dr. Brian J. Hand, Mid-Wales Hospital, Talgarth.
- Dr. D. L. Lees, Cantre Selyff, Lion Street, Brecon.
- Dr. D. Kyle, Glasfryn, Alexandra Road, Brecon.



Dr. D. F. Cameron, Tyn-y-berllan, Builth Wells.  
 Dr. J. K. Pugh, "Maesycloed," Builth Wells.  
 Dr. C. M. Fenn, "Meadow Way," Llanwrtyd Wells.  
 Dr. N. E. Melling, "Wennetune," Sennybridge.  
 Dr. R. F. Jayne, The Cottage, Talgarth.  
 Dr. R. C. Humphreys, Pencader, Crickhowell.  
 Dr. G. H. Beck, The Grange, Cefn Coed.  
 Dr. Margaret Barry, "Avondale," Ystradgynlais.  
 Dr. W. Boladz, "Avondale," Ystradgynlais.  
 Dr. E. W. Jones, "Brynhelig," Lower Cwmtwrch.

In addition to the above list the following Doctors who live outside the County have been approved for similar purposes:—

Merthyr Tydfil—Dr. S. Bloom, 108, Brecon Road, Merthyr Tydfil.  
 Merthyr Tydfil—Dr. F. E. Cresswell, "Hillside," Dowlais.  
 Glamorganshire—Dr. S. D. Stewart, "Cilbrwyn," Godrergrraig, Swansea.  
 Monmouthshire—Dr. A. Brookes, Penylan, Beaufort.  
 Carmarthenshire—Dr. F. W. Richards, "Glen View," Llandovery.

List of Doctors approved by the Mental Health Services Sub-Committee for the certification of Mental Defectives:—

### **Mental Deficiency Acts, 1913. Section 5 (2).**

Dr. W. F. W. Betenson, County Medical Officer, Brecon.  
 Dr. R. G. Evans, Deputy County Medical Officer, Brecon.  
 Dr. C. M. Evans, Assistant County Medical Officer, Brecon.  
 Dr. D. Kyle, Glasfryn, Alexandra Road, Brecon.  
 Dr. D. F. Cameron, Tynyberllan, Builth Wells.  
 Dr. J. K. Pugh, Maesycloed, Builth Wells.  
 Dr. C. M. Fenn, "Meadow Way," Llanwrtyd Wells.  
 Dr. N. E. Melling, "Wennetune," Sennybridge.  
 Dr. R. F. Jayne, The Cottage, Talgarth.  
 Dr. A. Brookes, Penylan, Beaufort.  
 Dr. R. C. Humphreys, Pencader, Crickhowell.  
 Dr. C. Cianter, Plasyddol, Abercrave. (Deceased 1954).  
 Dr. H. Beck, The Grange, Cefn Coed.  
 Dr. S. Bloom, 108, Brecon Road, Merthyr Tydfil.  
 Dr. P. E. Cresswell, Hillside, Dowlais.  
 Dr. Margaret Barry, "Avondale," Ystradgynlais.  
 Dr. E. W. Jones, Brynhelig, Lower Cwmtwrch.  
 Dr. W. Boladz, Avondale, Ystradgynlais.  
 Dr. S. D. Stewart, Cilbrwyn, Godrergrraig, Swansea.  
 Dr. G. W. Farrington, The Hermitage, Brynmawr.  
 Dr. R. M. Farrington, The Hermitage, Brynmawr.

The report of Miss Gwendoline Morgan, the Psychiatric Social Worker, is given below:—

### **PSYCHIATRIC SOCIAL WORKER'S REPORT FOR BRECONSHIRE**

**For Period 1st April, 1954, to 31st March, 1955.**

Although there has been an increase in the admission rate to the Mid-Wales Hospital, Talgarth, during the past year, it does not necessarily indicate that a larger number of persons are suffering from psychotic or neurotic conditions in the county. General Practitioners and patients are making greater use of the Psychiatric Clinic and through this agency it has often been possible to treat mental illhealth in the early stages.

The Welfare work in relation to the Brecon Psychiatric Clinic and the hospital has been undertaken where and when directed by the Medical Superintendent of the Mid-Wales Hospital. Families of newly-admitted patients have been visited and this early contact with the home has served several useful purposes in that the history and background of the patient has been compiled for medical use, queries relating to Insurance and domestic problems arising during the period of hospitalisation has been solved, and a friendly contact has been established between hospital and family, which has done much to put at rest natural, but unnecessary fears, concerning the "asylum."

Following the patient's discharge the Psychiatric Social Worker has given help and encouragement where needed. In nine cases it has been possible to find suitable employment and on occasion it has been necessary to give material help in the form of clothing and furnishings, where the family income has been inadequate. The whole purpose of "after care" has been to allay unnecessary worry and at the same time to encourage those who have had periods of mental illhealth to become self-reliant and capable of competing in normal society.

#### **Analysis of work undertaken between 1.4.54 and 31.3.55—**

Total number of visits made	...	258
(a) Case histories on admission	...	55
(This does not indicate the actual admission rate, for there are many instances of patients returning periodically for treatment, whose histories and home background are already recorded).		
(b) Visits to defective patients	...	18
(c) Enquiries for outside agencies, i.e., other hospitals and authorities	...	5
(d) Visits to ex-patients of the Mid-Wales Hospital needing after-care	...	178

The number of patients who received help and advice after leaving hospital is 43. Of this number 13 have re-entered hospital for short periods of treatment; 10 have remained in their home environment but have had bouts of instability; 20 have become well re-adjusted and appear capable of living normal lives.

The one defective patient discharged by operation of law from an Institution has caused some concern by her social behaviour. When she appeared before the Magistrates' Court on a charge of larceny the Psychiatric Social Worker gave evidence concerning her medical history, and the Magistrate who treated her case with understanding and consideration, placed her on probation for two years. Since this offence she has caused no further concern.

## NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

The Welfare Committee of the Council is responsible for the work under this Act.

### Section 21 (1) (a)—Homes for the Aged.

There are three Homes for the Aged in the County, as follows:—

Ashburnham House, Talgarth	... 15 beds
Brynhyfryd, Builth Wells	... 15 beds
Cockcroft House, Hay-on-Wye	... 60 beds

At Cockcroft House, the new annexe to provide additional ground floor accommodation for 12 infirm residents, is nearing completion. It is hoped that work will soon commence on the adaptation of "The Grove," Ystradgynlais, which, when completed, will provide residential accommodation for 28/30 elderly people. Work has commenced on the building of a Home for the Aged in Brynmawr. This will accommodate 35 elderly people. During the year under review there have been 16 people admitted to Homes for the Aged in the County, 14 have been discharged (9 to hospitals for the chronic sick). Four residents have died in the Homes.

### Section 21 (1) (b)—Provision of Temporary Accommodation.

Temporary accommodation for persons who are in urgent need thereof, being circumstances which could not reasonably have been foreseen, is provided at Welfare House, Llangattock.

**Section 29 (1)**—A scheme has now been adopted for the general classes of handicapped persons in the County, and it is hoped that this will now develop with the assistance of the British Red Cross Society.

### Section 47—Removal of people in need of care and attention.

One person was admitted to Cockcroft House, Hay-on-Wye, under an Order obtained at Builth Magistrates' Court by the Medical Officer of Health for Builth Rural District.

### Section 29. Welfare of the Blind, etc.

A whole - time Welfare Officer and Home Teacher for the Blind is employed under the scheme for the welfare of blind and partially sighted persons in the County.

Cases are only added to the County Blind Register after examination by Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeons. They are examined at suitable centres throughout the County or domiciliary visits made by the Surgeons when necessary. The majority of cases are examined by Mr. G. W. Hoare, of Newport, who covers the greater portion of the County, but the services of other Surgeons on the borders of the County are sought as occasion demands.

During the year the Consultant Ophthalmic Surgeons examined and completed Forms B.D.8 in respect of 61 persons, certifying that 40 were blind and 21 partially sighted.

There were no cases of Retrolental Fibroplasia, nor blindness due to Glaucoma, without prior treatment.

The number of Blind and Partially Sighted Persons on the register at 31st December, 1954, is given below in districts:—

		Blind.		Partially Sighted.	
		Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.
Brecon Urban	...	10	10	4	2
Brynmawr	...	11	11	2	2
Builth Urban	...	—	2	2	2
Llanwrtyd Wells Urban	...	—	2	2	—
Hay Urban	...	2	2	2	—
Brecon Rural	...	14	17	3	4
Builth Rural	...	1	3	2	2
Crickhowell Rural	...	14	6	3	3
Hay Rural	...	2	5	1	—
Vaynor and Pendergyn					
Rural	...	16	12	4	2
Ystradgynlais Rural	...	12	27	6	4
Total	...	82	97	29	22

The following table indicates that of the 61 cases examined, 27 required no treatment, 34 cases required treatment, and of these 19 received treatment during the year.

#### A. Follow-up of Registered Blind and Partially Sighted Persons.

		Causes of Disability.			
		Cataract.	Glaucoma.	Retrolental. Fibroplasia.	Others
(i) Number of cases registered during the year in respect of which para. 7(c) of Forms B.D. 8. recommends ..					
(a) No treatment ..	11	3	—		13
(b) Treatment (medical surgical or optical) ..	22	1	—		11
(ii) Number of cases at (i) (b) above which on follow-up action have received treatment ..	9	—	—		10



## B. Ophthalmia neonatorum.

As mentioned previously in this report, there was 1 case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum reported during the year:—

- |   |     |     |
|---|-----|-----|
| (i) Total number of cases during the year | ... | 1   |
| (ii) Number of cases at which:—           |     |     |
| (a) Vision lost                           | ... | Nil |
| (b) Vision impaired                       | ... | Nil |
| Treatment continued at end of year        | ... | Nil |

## Welfare of Handicapped Persons.

The County Council have adopted a scheme for the provision of welfare services, under Sections 29 and 30 of the National Assistance Act, 1948, for handicapped persons other than the blind, partially-sighted and Deaf or Dumb.

### Welfare Officers and Duly Authorised Officers in the County.

#### District.

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. *Brynmawr, Llanelly Hill and Crickhowell. | Mr. D. J. Davies, Welfare Offices, Lower Bailey Street, Brynmawr. |
| 2. Vaynor and Penderyn.                      | Mr. D. W. Chambers, Abertaf, Cefn Coed.                           |
| 3. Ystradgynlais.                            | Mr. W. T. Davies, Station Road, Ystradgynlais.                    |
| 4. *Brecknock and Defynnog.                  | Mr. H. G. Edwards, 13, The Watton, Brecon.                        |
| 5. *Hay, Talgarth and Builth                 | Mr. W. B. Hargest, Mason's Arms, Talgarth.                        |
| *Whole-time Officers.                        |   |

## MISCELLANEOUS.

**Smallpox Hospitals.** — Arrangements have been made for Smallpox Cases to be admitted to Penrhys Hospital and for Consultants to be called in to suspected cases. On diagnosing a case the Consultant will be responsible for arranging for Penrhys Hospital to be ready to receive the patient. In emergencies, where the consultants are not immediately available, a telephone call should be put through to the City Isolation Hospital, Cardiff (Telephone: Cardiff 21466), giving details to a responsible officer. The patient will be removed by the County Council under their Ambulance Scheme made under Section 27 of the N.H. Service Act, 1946.

**Examinations of Staffs.**—The Medical Staff of the County Health Department are constantly being called upon to undertake, often at short notice, the examination of candidates for various County and Education appointments. This work interferes with the fixed programme and cancellations are frequently having to be made to enable such examinations to be done in order to report the finding to the appropriate Committee.

During the year under review, the following medical examinations and X-Rays were carried out:—

	Examinations.	X-Rays.
Teachers	... 86	45
Nurses	... 6	2
Training College Entrants	... 90	2
Canteen Workers	... 15	14
Roadmen, Caretakers, etc.	... 32	—
Clerical Staffs	... 34	—
Technical Staffs	... 18	—
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Totals	... 281	63
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The cost of X-Ray Examinations is borne by the Local Health Authority under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, with the exception of any X-Rays of Training College Candidates, in which case the cost is one to be paid by the Ministry of Education.

Name of District.	Births				Nett Deaths belonging to the District				Deaths of Infants under 4 wks. of age		Deaths of Mothers	
	Live Births		Still Births		At all ages		Under 1 y'r of age		Number	Rate per 1,000 Live Births	Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion.	Rate per 1000 Births
	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number	Rate	Number.	Rate per 1000 Live Births				
Population estimated to the middle of the year.	93	15.12	1	10.63	95	15.44	4	43.01	3	32.25	..	22.47
Brecon Urban ..	6150	87	13.59	22.47	65	10.15	6	68.96	4	45.97	2	41.66
Brynmawr Urban ..	6400	24	15.28	..	32	20.38	1	41.66	1	41.66	1	41.66
Builth Wells Urban ..	1570	11	7.58	83.33	26	17.93	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hay Urban ..	1450	7	13.20	..	12	22.64	..	..	..	..	..	..
Llanwrtyd Wells Urban ..	530	104	13.90	28.03	83	11.09	1	9.61	1	9.61	..	..
Brecon Rural ..	7480	55	15.71	..	43	12.28	2	36.36	2	36.36	..	..
Builth Rural ..	3500	126	17.14	38.16	82	11.15	2	15.87	2	15.87	..	..
Crickhowell Rural ..	7350	67	18.20	..	87	23.64	1	14.92	1	..	..	..
Hay Rural ..	2650	81	13.77	12.19	68	11.56	2	24.49	..	..	..	..
Vaynor and Penderwyn Rural ..	5880	163	14.16	29.76	125	10.83	5	30.67	4	24.53	..	..
Ystradgynlais Rural ..	11510											
Brecon County ..	55500	818	14.73	21.53	718	12.93	24	29.33	18	22.00	3	3.58
England and Wales..	..	..	15.9	23.7	..	14.0	..	31.0	..	17.7	..	0.69
Brecon County, 1953	55700	880	15.79	0.39	681	12.22	26	29.54	18	20.45	..	..

\*The rate for Still Births has previously been given as the rate per 1,000 population. This year it has been given as the rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births.

WHOLE COUNTY.

76 years.



Table III.—Vital Statistics.

Causes of Deaths in the Separate Districts of the County.  
during the year 1954.

Cause of Death.	URBAN					RURAL						TOTAL
	Brecon	Brynmawr	Builth Wells	Hay	Llanwrtyd Wells	Brecon	Builth	Crickhowell	Hay	Vaynor and Penderyn	Ystradgynlais	
Tuberculosis, Respiratory ...	..	..	2	..	..	..	1	..	2	..	6	11
Tuberculosis, Other ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Syphilitic Disease ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping Cough ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Meningococcal Infection ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Acute Poliomyelitis ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	3	..	1	..	..	5	3	4	5	3	4	28
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Bronchus ...	1	1	1	..	..	1	1	3	..	1	4	13
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	1	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	2	3	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	1	4
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms ...	7	6	..	6	5	5	2	5	7	4	13	60
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	1	..	1	4
Diabetes ...	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System ...	15	10	3	2	1	11	2	10	12	12	20	98
Coronary Disease, Angina ...	10	5	5	2	1	11	6	13	8	8	19	88
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	..	..	2	1	..	1	..	2	4	..	..	10
Other Heart Disease ...	35	10	8	6	3	25	15	22	24	15	13	176
Other Circulatory Disease ...	3	2	..	..	..	1	3	2	3	5	8	27
Influenza ...	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	2	..	..	4
Pneumonia ...	..	..	1	1	1	4	..	..	..	1	1	9
Bronchitis ...	3	9	2	1	..	4	3	7	4	3	2	38
Other Diseases of Respiratory System ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	7	8
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	1	1	1	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	5
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	1	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis ...	1	1	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	2	..	6
Hyperplasia of Prostate ...	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	3	8
Pregnancy, Childbirth, Abortion ...	..	2	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Congenital Malformations ...	..	3	..	1	..	..	2	..	1	1	1	9
Other Defined and Ill-Defined Diseases ...	10	6	4	4	1	10	2	9	6	4	11	67
Motor Vehicle Accidents ...	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	3
All Other Accidents ...	3	2	..	1	..	1	..	1	2	1	6	17
Suicide ...	1	3	..	..	..	1	1	1	1	..	..	8
Homicide and Operations of War ...	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Totals ...	95	65	32	26	12	83	43	82	87	68	125	718
Totals, 1953 ...	97	79	23	21	10	79	41	81	48	74	128	681

TABLE IV.—Notifiable Diseases, 1954.

DISTRICT	Small Pox	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Pneumonia.	Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic).	Erysipelas.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Abortus Rever.	Puerperal Pyrexia.	Measles.	Whooping Cough.	Salmonella	Malaria (Contracted Abroad).	Tuber- culosis		Dysentery	Meningococcal Infection	Para Typhoid	TOTALS
															Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary				
Brecon Urban	..	1	..	..	..7	..	..	..	..	..	..	34	..	..	1	1	..2	1	..2	33
Brynmawr Urban	..	5	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..3	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	22
Builth Wells Urban	..	..1	..	..	..1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..4	..	..	..	3
Hay Urban	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..4	..	..	..	6
Llanwrtyd Wells Urban	..	..8	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	1	..	4	..	..	..	4
Brecon Rural	..	..	..	..	..1	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	18
Builth Rural	..	..	..	..	..1	..	..	..	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	4	..	..	..	7
Hay Rural	..	..4	..	..	..2	..	1	..	1	..	..2	..	..	..	..	8	..2	..	..	10
Orickhowell Rural	..	..3	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	18	..	..	..	6	..	..	..	35
Vaynor and Penderwyn Rural	..	4	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..1	..1	2	..	..	..	5	..1	..	..	11
Ystradgynlais Rural	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	24	1	..	..	8	..	..	..	42
Totals	..	26	..	2	12	2	1	1	1	1	3	86	1	1	1	50	5	1	2	196
Total, 1953	..	112	1	1	12	1	2	2	..	2	352	76	..	2	..	..	1	..	4	568

Table V.—Tuberculosis.

Summary of Notifications during the period from 1st January, 1953, to 31st December, 1954.

Notification on Form A.															
Age Periods	{	Number of Primary Notifications.												Total (All Ages).	
		0 to 1	1 to 2	2 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 25	25 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 55	55 to 65	65 to 75		75 and upwards
Respiratory—Males...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	3	13	2	2	4	2	...	29
„ Females	..	...	..	...	...	..	...	4	4	5	1	1	2	...	17
Non-Respiratory—Males	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	...	..	...	...	...	..
„ Females	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	1	...	...	1	...	2
Totals ...	...	...	..	1	...	1	1	7	17	8	3	6	4	..	48

Table VI.—Showing the work of the Health Visitors during the year 1954.

DISTRICT	NUMBER OF VISITS PAID										Totals			
	Pre-Natal Visits		First Visits		Total Visits		Visits to Children 1-2		Visits to Children 2-			T.B. Households	Others	First Visits Paid to Households during the Year
	First Visits.	Total Visits.	To Children under 1	To Children under 1	Total	First	Total	First	Total					
Brecon Urban and Rural (Part)	15	..	110	410	50	125	11	178	172	100	241	1412		
Brynmawr Urban	1	..	80	411	3	499	7	426	157	147	235	1966		
Builth Urban and Rural (Part)	..	1	30	211	2	341	..	68	74	50	155	932		
Hay Urban and Rural (Part)	8	1	51	182	28	128	58	56	53	..	129	694		
Llanwrtyd Urban and Builth Rural Part	1	2	29	215	3	98	14	148	37	97	86	730		
Brecon Rural & Crickhowell Rural (Part)	3	1	106	1438	15	1514	12	1940	108	74	416	5707		
Brecon Rural (Devynock, etc.)	1	..	27	78	2	72	1	69	44	41	51	386		
Brecon Rural (Part), Merthyr Cynog	1	3	17	120	1	87	..	108	3	11	30	381		
Builth Rural and Hay Rural (Erwood and Llyswen)	..	1	14	173	..	76	1	242	..	1	49	657		
Builth Rural (Llanwrthwl)	..	8	6	8	3	6	..	24	1	5	6	67		
Builth Rural (Llwynmadoc)	..	..	10	76	..	37	..	80	8	42	31	284		
Builth Rural (Llysdinam, etc.)	1	1	2	21	..	16	2	64	..	..	16	113		
Crickhowell Rural (Olydach and Gwlern)	..	..	46	142	2	83	..	103	35	34	30	475		
Crickhowell Rural (Glynfach)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	68	..	..		
Crickhowell Rural (Darenfelin)	..	..	10	62	3	42	2	47	16	..	34	283		
Hay Rural & Brecon Rural (Talgarth, etc.)	30	171	50	455	2	116	3	138	124	..	234	1333		
Hay Rural (Glasbury and Llanigon)	15	5	20	203	29	82	65	89	12	..	121	643		
Vaynor and Penderyn Rural	6	..	87	498	8	300	9	626	227	108	620	2398		
Ystradgynlais Rural (Part)	..	..	98	995	6	884	3	674	301	376	649	3986		
Ystradgynlais Rural (Abercrave)	..	..	131	1009	1	397	5	243	111	87	271	2256		
Ystradgynlais Rural (Oolbron)	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3		
Relief Nurses	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3	..	3	6		
TOTALS	81	194	925	6778	168	4903	193	8323	1505	1243	3308	24611		



Table VII.—Dental Care of Mothers and Young Children, under Section 22, of the National Health Service Act, 1946.

(a) Numbers provided with Dental Care :—

	Examined	Needing Treatment	Treated	Made Dentally Fit
Expectant and Nursing Mothers ...	86	85	70	39
Children under Five ...	46	42	42	30

(b) Forms of Dental Treatment Provided :—

	Scalings and Gum Treatment	Fillings	Silver Nitrate Treatment	Crowns or Inlays	Extractions	General Anaesthetics	Dentures Provided		Radio-graphs
							Full Upper or Lower	Partial Unper or Lower	
Expectant and Nursing Mothers ...	25	29	...	...	385	15	17	22	1
Children under Five	...	20	...	...	66	7	...	...	...

Table VIII.—Analysis of Premature Births (Live and Still) belonging to the County, 1954.

Premature babies born during the year (whose mothers normally reside in the area) including babies born in maternity homes and hospitals in or outside the County.

WEIGHT AT BIRTH	PREMATURE LIVE BIRTHS.												Premature Still Births		
	* Born in Hospital			Born at Home and Nursed entirely at Home			Born at Home and Transferred to Hospital on or before 28th Day			Born in Nursing Home and Transferred to Hospital on or before 28th Day			Born in Hospital		
	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of Birth	Survived 28 Days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of Birth	Survived 28 Days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of Birth	Survived 28 Days	Total	Died within 24 hrs. of Birth	Survived 28 Days	Total	Born at Home	Born in Nursing Home
3 lb. 4 ozs. or less	6	1	2	1	1	—	4	2	1	—	—	—	3	2	1
Over 3 lb. 4 ozs. up to and including 4 lb. 6 ozs. ...	8	—	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—
Over 4 lb. 6 oz. up to and including 4 lb. 15 ozs. ...	9	1	8	2	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Over 4 lb. 15 oz. up to and including 5 lb. 8 oz. ...	18	—	18	10	1	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—
Totals ...	41	2	36	13	2	11	5	2	2	—	—	—	6	3	1

\* The Group under this heading includes cases born in one Hospital and transferred to another.